

Touch a button and get Najib

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Can't get enough of Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak?

Now you can have him at just a touch of a button through a mobile application, available free for both Android and iPhone users.

"I have launched the Najib Razak application which will bring you the latest updates, all in one application.

"The application has exclusive live features, broadcasting my activities and programmes.

"Download so we can keep in touch!" the PM wrote on Facebook.

The application is available for download on Google Play Store for Android users and the App Store for Apple users.

Users will need to provide the app access to their photos, media and files found on the device, to install the application.

The privacy policy states information obtained from users will be shared with "employees and vendors who are engaged by or working with" the Najib Razak app team to complete commissioned work.

It logs IP address and user location, but does not gather personal information, the policy states.

Who paid for it?

DAP's Bukit Mertajam MP Steven Sim, however, is more concerned over the cost of building the application and who foot the bill.

He said this is especially since Najib released a similar app called 'Najib Razak 1Malaysia' in 2011, which is now no longer available for download.

"We want to know how much money was spent on the first app and this second one? Who was/were paid to develop these mobile apps and to later to run them?"

"Was there a conflict of interest when a company owned by the PM's special officer was given the contract to develop the second app?" he asked in a statement.

Sim said Najib has "questionable methods in social media propaganda", including using fake accounts that use pictures of deceased persons to support him on social media.

The government has also had failed forays in mobile apps, he added, spending close to RM1

billion on the SaveMe999 app which seems to have disappeared from cyberspace.

"I worry the same thing will happen to the PM's official app, as it has happened before to the first official app and to SaveMe999. These systems ended up becoming multi-million ringgit money-making opportunities for cronies without bringing any real benefit to Malaysians," he said.

The app was developed by Resonate Digital Sdn Bhd.

Among others, the Najib Razak application connects users to Najib's blog and Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Flickr and YouTube accounts.

It also has a "Bajet 2017" and a "1Malaysia" tab, which explains the 1Malaysia concept and related products including Amanah Saham 1Malaysia.

The app includes a list of things he has done since he was elected in 1976.

The app's interactive feature allows users to participate in campaigns and polls and share ideas with Najib.

Najib has embraced social media by actively posting activities online and holding events to engage his social media followers.

He has more than six million followers on Twitter and Facebook alone.

'Thanks, Jibby!'

Many also take to Najib's social media accounts to vent frustration over his administration.

Some have also taken a swipe at Najib through rating the app on Google Play Store.

"After I downloaded the app, I logged onto my internet banking (site) and couldn't believe my eyes.

"Usually, I have no more than RM1,000 in my bank account. However, now I see an anonymous donor has banked in RM2.6 billion into my bank account.

"Thanks, Jibby for making me an instant billionaire overnight. I love PM," one Kenneth Ho wrote.

Najib was in January cleared of wrongdoing over the RM2.6 billion found in his bank account.

The attorney-general said it was a political donation from a Saudi royal.

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