

Najib's fortunes my fall from tall tower
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Pride always comes before a fall. This practically sums up Najib Abdul Razak's impending doom when his new 100-storey tower takes shape in the capital. If online surveys and responses are any indication, the reception of this mega-project is anything but favourable. The general feeling is that this project will not benefit anyone but only those cronies who are going to be blessed with building this gargantuan project.

Since this mega-project will not be opened for public tender, one can only accept with a pinch of salt that the figure of RM5 billion earmarked for the project is really the real figure. It has been suggested by Sime Darby insiders that a more realistic figure would be about RM3 billion.

What about variation clauses that may eventually balloon the actual cost to several billion more? And what if the cost escalates to an extent that PNB cannot continue? Obviously the only recourse is another bail-out from the govt coffers since PNB is a GLC.

Perhaps the most daunting prospect facing this proposed mega-project would be the traffic congestion a 100-storey building will cause. Even now without this mega-structure the area is already facing frequent traffic snarls and with the addition of this mega-building, traffic congestion is going to be exacerbated.

Najib would be well-advised to review his initial euphoria of continuing with this mega - project because this mega tower could be just Najib's downfall.

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