

**Najib's Perkasa stand a 'flip-flop' says Kit Siang**  
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IPOH - DAP stalwart Lim Kit Siang claimed Sunday that Malaysians have witnessed one of the biggest flip-flops in Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's 18 months in office.

The MP for Ipoh Timur added that Najib's failure to stand up and be counted to condemn extremism and extremists, especially from his own camp, will be the undoing of his 1Malaysia concept.

Najib reportedly said on Saturday that Umno did not want to stir conflict with any non-governmental organisation (NGO) despite recent remarks by some Umno leaders, including himself, to rebuff Malay rights group Perkasa.

"Najib's attempt to distance or disentangle Umno from Perkasa did not last more than a week from the announcement of the Umno Secretary-General that Perkasa was eroding non-Malay support for Barisan Nasional to Najib's Malaysia Day message expressing sadness at the rise of extremism in his 18 months as Prime Minister," said Lim at the launching of the DAP Pasir Pinji service centre foodfair at Tou Mou Kong, here on Sunday.

Lim said it was ironical that the PM should chose the Yayasan 1Malaysia seminar themed "Living In a Multi-Ethnic Society" in Kuala Lumpur after the Malaysia Day celebrations in Sabah to "perform the flip-flop".

He said by refusing to name Perkasa as the worst culprit responsible for the rise of extremism, foreign investors will be scared away.

He added that now Umno secretary-general Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor had also followed Najib's back-peddalling by denying that Barisan Nasional parties had agreed to keep a distance from Perkasa.

"If Barisan Nasional parties had never agreed to keep a distance from Perkasa, are MCA and Gerakan national leaders to "eat their words" for publicly welcoming such a decision?" Lim asked.

According to a Bernama report, Gerakan President and Minister for 1Malaysia Dr. Koh Tsu Koon on Sept 11 had hailed Umno's move to distance from Perkasa as reflecting "the liberal and moderate stand of Barisan Nasional component parties towards all races".

Lim said Tsu Koon, just like Najib, "dare not take the bull by the horns and draw a line in the sand against the rise of racial bigotry and religious extremism mostly emanating from Umno and allied or outsourced organizations."

On his trip to Shanghai for the World Expo on Sept 10, Lim spoke of the Malaysian Chinese diaspora in China.

"I met Malaysians who are working in China who are highly skilled, most talented and top professionals. I understand that the Malaysian diaspora in China is in the region of 100,000," he said.

"This pool of Malaysian diaspora of talent and skills in China is Malaysia's loss and China's

gain. Most of the Malaysians working in China I met would have Malaysia as their first choice to work but they have to go overseas for their talents, skills and expertise to get proper recognition.

"What has Najib done in the past 18 months to bring home the Malaysian diaspora whether from China and elsewhere?" he asked.

He said what concerned the Chinese was how China could compete internationally in contrast to the obsessive pre-occupation in Malaysia, which is the competition between bumiputras and non-bumiputras and Malays vs non-Malays.

Lim said it would be a sad thing if there is further exodus of brain drain because of the failure of the Najib administration to take a stand against extremism and a full commitment towards an open, accountable, competitive and just economy.

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