

**PM: Take your health seriously**  
**Malaysianmirror.com**  
**13 November 2010**

KUALA LUMPUR – The Cabinet yesterday approved RM5mil to upgrade the facilities at the intensive care unit of Kuala Lumpur Hospital to provide better services to the public.

The allocation was announced by Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak, who was treated at the unit between Nov 4 and Nov 7 due to complications from the chicken pox he contracted last month.

Najib, who has recovered and is back at work, said he noticed the dilapidated condition of the unit while receiving treatment there.

He said the Health Ministry had been asked to acquire equipment to upgrade the unit in order to provide better services to the people.  
Najib was speaking at a thanksgiving ceremony at the royal ward of HKL yesterday.

Earlier in the day, he chaired the weekly cabinet meeting at the Prime Minister's Department in Putrajaya.

Najib reminded people not to take for granted the peace and prosperity enjoyed in the country, saying that people often realised the importance of a certain aspect in their lives only after they no longer had it.

"This is a lesson I learnt from my own experience (while in hospital). There are many things in our lives that we take for granted, for example, health.

"But when God takes it from us, we realise how valuable it is."

He added: "When we have health problems or lose our health, only then we realise how huge a loss it is."

Stressing that prevention was better than cure, Najib called on the people to take care of their health, practise good hygiene and listen to the doctors' as well as their spouses' advice in maintaining good health.

Najib also recalled the anxious moment on Nov 4 when he experienced complications because of the chicken pox infection.

The attack came at a time when the by-elections for the Galas state seat in Kelantan and Batu Sapi parliamentary seat in Sabah were announced, which saw Barisan Nasional winning by a comfortable margin.

Najib said his wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, came to his aid.

"The doctor told me that I had no choice but to be treated at the intensive care unit. It was not something that I looked forward to."

However, he said, his time at the hospital proved to be a sweet experience.

Najib, who was discharged on Sunday, thanked the staff of the Health Ministry for their care during his stay at the hospital.

The prime minister also said he was proud that a 1Malaysia team treated him at the hospital, adding that everyone, irrespective of race or religion, discharged their duties professionally.

He said the doctors and specialists with the assistance of nurses had treated thousands of patients who were similarly grateful for the treatment they received.

"If we could translate this to a wider scale at the national level, we should be able to achieve the vision of turning our country into a developed and high-income nation." —  
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