

PM Hopes For A Good Rabbit Year
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KUALA LUMPUR -- Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak has expressed the hope that the new year in the Chinese calendar will also bring success to the policies and programmes set by the government.

"I hope that this will be the year we achieve greater success in line with the belief that this Year of the Rabbit will be a prosperous year.

"But this can only be realised if the policies and agenda are implemented to the best of our abilities," he told reporters at the MCA open house in conjunction with the Chinese New Year at Wisma MCA, here today.

Najib, who was accompanied by wife Rosmah Mansor, also expressed the hope that the private sector and the Chinese community would come together and play their role in pushing the national agenda forward.

Present were Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin and wife Norainee Abdul Rahman, former prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad and wife Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, MCA leaders including its president Dr Chua Soi Lek, deputy president Kong Cho Ha and several Barisan Nasional component party leaders.

Najib and Muhyiddin spent about an hour at the open house and also took part in mixing the "Yee Sang" together with other leaders as a symbol of unity in the country.

The fine weather in the capital city provided a conducive environment for the celebration, with the people visiting the open houses of their Chinese friends.

Thousands of people attended the open house at Wisma MCA, among them tourists.

Gerakan had also held their open house today, taking place at PGRM Building in Cheras, and attended by the prime minister and deputy prime minister.

At the Gerakan open house, there was a mixing of Yee Sang, which was spread over four meters long, participated by leaders and the people.

In IPOH, Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir also hosted an open house from 2pm until 6pm at the Menteri Besar's residence here.

Tomorrow, the celebration will continue with the open house organised by Perak Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

In MELAKA, over 5,000 people attended the open house organised by Melaka MCA at Sekolah Menengah Pay Fong.

Chief Minister Mohd Ali Rustam, who also attended the event, said this year's open house was merrier than last year's and it clearly showed that the support for Barisan Nasional-led government was on the rise.

"This the Year of the Rabbit and the year of love. So, I hope the relationship among all the multi-racial people in Malaysia will be strengthened and will bring about long-lasting prosperity that can be shared by all," he said before heading to the Melaka Gerakan's open house in Taman Malim Jaya.

In KUCHING, heavy downpours did not dampen the Chinese New Year celebrations with open houses continued to be organised as the main festive feature.

The Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP) held its open house at its headquartes in Jalan Taman Budaya. Among the guests at the event were Yang Dipertua Negeri Sarawak Abang Muhammad Salahuddin Abang Barieng, Chief Minister Abdul Taib Mahmud, Deputy Chief Minister Alfred Jabu and Cabinet ministers.

It is estimated that over 10,000 people attended the open house this year.

In PENANG, over 5,000 multi-racial people atten(Berded the open house hosted by Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng at the Penang International Sports Centre here. Yang Dipertua Negeri, Abdul Rahman Abbas and his wife, Majimor Shariff, were the among the guests.

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