

**Najib Gives The Thumbs Up For Cabinet Meetings Outside Putrajaya**  
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KUANTAN -- Prime Minister Najib Razak said today holding the weekly Cabinet meeting outside Putrajaya had its advantages for the government.

He said that at the same time the Cabinet ministers felt that they could interact in a more cordial manner among themselves as they had the opportunity to do so.

"We hold the meeting outside (of Putrajaya) from time to time. There are no hard and fast rules. It depends on the circumstances.

"We find that having the meeting outside is useful because we can see the condition on the ground in the relevant state and can learn of the current developments," he told reporters after chairing the weekly Cabinet meeting at the Pahang Foundation complex in Tanjung Lumpur, here.

Najib said that at today's meeting, Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob gave a briefing to illustrate the situation in the state.

Today's meeting of the Cabinet was the first outside Putrajaya since Najib became the prime minister in April 2009.

Najib said the prime ministers before him had also held Cabinet meetings in the states.

Asked whether this meeting was an indicator that the next general election would be held soon, he said it was just an ordinary Cabinet meeting.

He said the Cabinet meeting outside Putrajaya was organised along with a tour to a development programme on the ground, this time involving a project in Pekan where the government assisted the poor under a different corporate social responsibility (CSR) principle.

"Our assistance in this case is not in just giving (something) but providing opportunities for them to augment their income so as to elevate themselves from poverty," he said in reference to the Bukit Kenau Integrated Housing Community Centre in Pulau Manis, Pekan, about 50 km from here.

(Bernama)