

"1Melayu, 1Bumi" Idea Not Linked To Govt
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SERDANG -- Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak said today the government had nothing to do with the "1Melayu, 1Bumi" movement proposed in a Utusan Malaysia newspaper report.

"That's the personal opinion of the writer. As for the government, we have a very clear concept which we will continue to work on.

"And, as for the Malays, it is most important that they support Umno if they want to be politically united," he told reporters after addressing a gathering of farmers, breeders and fishermen, here. Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Minister Noh Omar was also present at the event.

Utusan Malaysia assistant editor-in-chief Zaini Hassan, in his "Cuit" column two days ago, said the DAP had managed to unite the Chinese politically and, in his opinion, the Malays should launch the "1Melayu, 1Bumi" unity movement.

Asked about the proposal by DAP advisor Lim Kit Siang for the Sarawak National Party (SNAP) to merge with the DAP, Najib said he did not wish to comment on an opposition issue.

However, he said he did not see how SNAP could work with the DAP because their ideologies were different.

Two days ago, Kit Siang proposed that the DAP and SNAP merge in time for the next general election in order to better serve the Iban-Dayak community in Sarawak, saying that such a merger would accelerate the Iban-Dayak political awakening following the recently concluded Sarawak election.

Asked about calls from several quarters for Abdul Taib Mahmud to step down as the Sarawak chief minister, Najib said: "I have made my comment ... give me time."

On the reported dissatisfaction of the people towards the announced 1Malaysia E-mail account for all Malaysian citizens, the prime minister said that as it was a private sector project, the explanation should come from them.

"Let them do the explanation ... not everything's on me because it's their proposal. It's a private sector initiative and it doesn't involve public money. Let them take the initiative to explain (to the public)."

(Bernama)