

**Chinese Must Choose**  
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KUALA TERENGGANU -- Najib Tun Razak said the Chinese community must decide whether to vote for a Barisan Nasional component party or lose representation in the government.

"They have to choose. If they want the opposition, they must sacrifice the party in government. If they want a bigger say to serve their interests, they have to support a Barisan Nasional component party," he told reporters here after opening Pangsapuri Rakyat on Duyong island here yesterday.

"Chinese voters have already been given a clear message on this," the Prime Minister said.

He was commenting on the statement by MCA president Dr Chua Soi Lek yesterday that the party would not accept any post in the federal and state governments if it were to fare worse in the coming general election than it did in the 2008 polls.

Najib said he saw that the MCA was sending a message to Chinese voters that they could not support the opposition and at the same time expect strong representation in the government.

In the 2008 polls, the MCA won 15 of the 40 parliamentary seats it contested and 31 of the 90 state constituencies it vied for.

Najib was confident that the MCA would always be with Barisan Nasional because "they know BN is a fair government and only BN can ensure stability and harmony in this country."

"We have a proven track record, our policies are accepted by all communities, so MCA, whatever the situation is, will remain with BN," he said.

In Muar, Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin said the Chinese community would suffer a huge loss if there were to be no MCA representatives in the government.

"I hope this does not happen. Barisan Nasional upholds the struggle of all communities, with fair representation of all communities," he told reporters after opening the meetings of the Youth, Wanita and Puteri wings of the Pagoh Umno division.

Muhyiddin rejected suggestions that the MCA decision was a desperate act.

He was confident that the MCA could, with renewed effort, regain the support of the Chinese community.

(Bernama)

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