

Allegation That Umno Masterminded JAIS Raid On DUMC Illogical, Says PM
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KUALA LUMPUR -- The allegation by certain parties that the raid by the Selangor Islamic Religious Department (JAIS) on the Damansara Utama Methodist Church (DUMC) was masterminded by Umno is illogical and a wild accusation, said Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak.

Najib, who is also the Umno president, said the issue involved the administration of the Selangor state government which also had the right to direct JAIS to conduct any raid, and not Umno.

"They are all allegations, how can we (Umno) instruct people who are not under Umno. JAIS comes under whose authority? Not under Umno. Who were the people who had done this, not Umno people.

"How can Umno instruct non-Umno people to carry out the raid. This does not make sense. If (you) make an accusation that is illogical, it's difficult. It is an extreme accusation," he told reporters after chairing the Umno Supreme Council meeting at Menara Dato' Onn, here on Friday.

Najib said Umno maintained the principles stated in the National Constitution that Islam is the religion of the Federation and that other faiths can be practiced in any part of the country.

"In terms of Umno's stand, it is based on the Constitution, which means that Islam is the religion of the Federation and no one can taint the sanctity of Islam including forcing or attempting to convert any Malaysian Muslim into other faiths.

"At the same time, other religions are free to be practiced in any part of the country," he said.

On Aug 3, JAIS had carried out a check on DUMC after receiving information that Muslims were attending a function organised by the church and there was information that Christianity was being spread to Muslims at the church.

(Bernama)