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Barisan Nasional chairman Datuk Seri Najib Razak cheered by delegates at the BN Convention in Wisma MCA, Kuala Lumpur, yesterday. — Bernama picture

Rallying cry

Najib challenges BN parties not to be complacent

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KUALA LUMPUR: Rallying Barisan Nasional delegates yesterday, Datuk Seri Najib Razak said recent by-election wins signify the coalition's recovery but warned that delusion, amnesia, inertia and arrogance had brought long-serving ruling parties to their knees.

"The fact is that parties which have been in power for a long time seldom reflect on their weaknesses," the BN chairman told the BN Convention in Wisma MCA here in a Malay-English speech, peppered with Mandarin and Tamil references and phrases in Iban and Bajau.

Elaborating, Najib said delusion was a belief that the people's support would never end.

Amnesia caused one to lose sight of the objectives of a struggle; inertia was when leaders refused to undertake reforms and changes, and arrogance was when they could not accept public reprimand.

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"To bounce back, we must come up with a restorative plan, do it consistently and implement it accordingly.

"This is what we are working towards —

ensuring a big victory.

"There has been positive development over the past two years — we are grateful to God for that.

"This shows we are listening to the voice of the people."

Najib, who is also prime minister, said it was important to nurture the people's confidence in BN through hard work.

"We must not be distracted. For BN to continue to helm the country and states, we must consolidate and strengthen the bond among the parties."

Najib said BN leaders must ensure that the people's love for BN does not turn into