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'It's irresponsible'

PM: Pakatan's 100-day plan could bankrupt nation

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PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia will go bankrupt like Greece in two years if the Pakatan Rakyat's 100-day plan is implemented after the next general election, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said.

"If we believe in something that is too good to be true, then we are deceiving ourselves and we will be taken in by our own errors."

Under the populist plan,

announced last month, Khazanah Nasional Berhad and the Employees Provident Fund would be asked to facilitate the takeover of highway assets by the government to enable the abolition of tolls.

The subsidy structure was also to be revamped and teaching allowances raised to RM500 per month.

If it comes to power at the next general election, Pakatan also intends to get rid of Fel-da Plantations, with the farms man-

aged by Fel-da's second and third generations.

Addressing the Prime Minister's Department's monthly gathering yesterday, Najib said Pakatan's plans were irresponsible.

They were also unrealistic because they did not state the source of funds to finance the plan.

Najib said one should not be too populist to the extent of putting the future of the nation at risk.

"It is irresponsible and will cause

our children and grandchildren to suffer.

"If their plan is implemented, it won't take long... in just two years, according to our estimates, our country will be like Greece."

Specifically making references to civil servants, Najib said they were knowledgeable and would be able to see the follies of such a plan.

DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng had termed the 100-day plan

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Chua: Pakatan plan a gimmick

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as a "black-and-white guarantee" that Pakatan would work for the benefit of the people if it came to power.

MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek poured scorn on the plan, calling it a "gimmick" to divert attention from Pakatan's failure to deliver on its 2008 general election pledges.

Dr Chua cited as tangible examples what Pakatan had promised for Kedah after the last general election. These included giving civil

servants interest-free loans and nursing care centres, upgrading of the garbage disposal system, not tearing down any pig slaughterhouses as well as no increase in water tariffs.

"Is Pakatan capable of reform or carrying out what they promised?"

"They made all the promises but if you look at their election manifesto, these have not been delivered.

"This is a gimmick and I hope the rakyat would not be taken in by it," he said after meeting second-hand spare-part dealers.