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PM to meet Barisan MPs on Saturday

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PETALING JAYA: Prime Minister and Barisan Nasional chief Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak will meet Barisan MPs on Saturday.

Several backbenchers confirmed receiving an SMS invitation to the meeting but said they did not know what the agenda was.

They, however, gave their views on what was likely to be discussed.

The Barisan Backbenchers Club secretariat informed them of the meeting.

According to a backbencher, who refused to be quoted, the prime minister would give each MP five minutes to highlight problems and issues in their constituencies during the meeting.

"It is not to discuss and decide the date of the next general election or snap election," he said yesterday.

Tangga Batu MP Datuk Idris Harun said Najib wanted to hear from the MPs about the people's problems and wanted to hear their

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CHUA TEE YONG

solutions to the issues.

Asked if Najib would discuss the preparation for the next general election, Idris said everything MPs did was meant to win the next polls.

"We are to translate whatever PM says into action to ensure Barisan wins in the next general election," he said.

Alor Setar MP Datuk Chor Chee Heung, who is also MCA vice-president, said he had received the invitation to attend the meeting but there were no details.

Generally, he said, the prime minister met MPs twice a year.

Chor did not think the meeting was to discuss plans for a snap election.

He said the gathering could be one of the key performance index meetings with all Barisan MPs.

Chua Tee Yong, Labis MP and son of MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek, said the purpose of the meeting was for Najib to hear from MPs to understand better the problems and issues in each MP's constituency.

"I think it is good to do this once or twice a year rather than wait for the meetings at Parliament," he said.

Wanita MCA national vice-chairman Heng Seai Kie said the meeting was a platform for the prime minister and MPs to talk about the problems in their constituency.