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Newspaper	The Star
Date	11/1/2011

# 100-day reform plan irresponsible

> Populist measure does not take into account country's actual capacity, says Najib

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PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Sen Najib Abdul Razak took a swipe at the Opposition's 100-day reform programme announced last month, saying it was a populist and irresponsible measure.

He said this was totally contrary to the practice of the Barisan Nasional, a fiscally responsible government that does not make promises which cannot be delivered.

Najib likened the plan, announced at the Pakatan Rakyat Convention in Penang on Dec 19 to a person with many wishes but without the means to achieve them.

"If we want to buy a new car or house, we must first ask ourselves whether we are capable. Where would we get the money from?"

"But what I find surprising and strange is that when they tabled all those measures which are populist in nature, not a single word was said about financial sources.

"So how could they deliver all they promised?" Najib asked at a monthly assembly of the Prime Minister's Department yesterday.

He said the BN government's plans like the Government Transformation Programme, Economic Transformation Programme, New Economic Model and 10th Malaysia Plan are all measures which can be implemented.

Describing the Opposition's plan as being "too good to be true", Najib said it was dangerous to be too populist to the extent of putting the country's future at stake.



"We cannot be so irresponsible as to let our children and grandchildren suffer. In fact, we do not have to wait that long.

"According to our calculations, in two years, we will become like Greece if the promises (in the 100-day plan) were implemented without considering the country's actual capacity."

He said civil servants should be able to judge for themselves whether what the PR had promised could be delivered. "I always like to hold to the phrase that if something feels too good to be true, it probably is. If we believe in it,

then we are lying to ourselves."

The PR has pledged to abolish the Internal Security Act; ask Khazanah Nasional Berhad and the Employees Provident Fund to facilitate the takeover of highway assets by the government to abolish toll; revamp the subsidy structure to reduce subsidies to the private sector and instead channel it to the public; increase the teachers' allowance by RM500 a month; and increase by 20% oil royalties for Sabah, Sarawak, Terengganu and Kelantan in the first three months of it coming into power.

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