



PERDANA LIBRARY  
PERDANA LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION  
NEWSPAPER CLIPPING

Newspaper	New Straits Times
Date	7/4/2009

# BN leaders meet Najib over cabinet line-up

• By Hamidah Atan  
news@nst.com.my

**PUTRAJAYA:** Barisan Nasional component party leaders are taking turns to meet Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak over the formation of his new cabinet.

The new line-up is expected to be named by tomorrow, with the swearing-in ceremony slated for Thursday.

Najib will leave for the Asean summit in Thailand on Friday.

MCA president Datuk Seri Ong Tee Keat was among the first to meet Najib yesterday.

He was seen driving to the Prime Minister's office in a black Alphard with registration plate number WSJ 1 at 10.55am and left at 12.10pm.

Ong, however, refused to stop to speak to the horde of reporters who had stationed themselves from as early as 8am after getting wind that BN party leaders would be meeting Najib on the new cabinet.

In Taiping later, Ong told Bernama he submitted a list of names to Najib to be considered for cabinet appointments.



Datuk Seri Ong Tee Keat leaving reporters in his wake after meeting with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak in Putrajaya yesterday.

"We had an hour-long talk, very meaningful but I can't reveal it to you.

"I did submit a list containing names, in accordance with party hierarchy and their status as member of parliament," he said after carrying out house-to-house campaigning at Simpang New Village.

There is wide speculation over the fate of Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Seri Ong Ka Chuan, who lost in his bid for the MCA deputy presidency to Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek at last year's party polls.

Sarawak United People's Party organising secretary

Datuk Peter Chin Fah Kui told the *New Straits Times* that his party's list of names had already been forwarded to the prime minister.

"Let the prime minister decide who he thinks is best to be in the line-up. We are optimistic of his capabilities to form a team to build his own administration.

"However, it is SUPP's hope that our 'membership' as a cabinet minister be maintained," said Chin, the only SUPP representative in the outgoing federal cabinet.

MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu is expected to meet Najib today.

An aide to the prime minister said besides consulting BN component party leaders, Najib had also been getting input on choices for ministers from veteran politicians, businessmen, scholars and academicians.

There are currently 32 members in the cabinet, most of them from Umno, the largest component in the ruling coalition.

The others are four from MCA and one each from MIC, Parti Bersatu Sabah, Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu, SUPP and United Pasokmogun Kadazandusun Murut Organisation.