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# King gives his consent

## Najib will take oath of office as sixth PM at 10am today

**PUTRAJAYA:** The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin has consented to the appointment of Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak as the sixth Prime Minister of Malaysia, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Sidek Hassan said.

He said in a statement that Najib would be presented his letter of appointment as Prime Minister and would take his oath of office, loyalty and confidentiality before the King at Istana Negara at 10am today.

Yesterday, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi sought an audience with Tuanku Mizan where he conveyed his intention to relinquish the Prime Minister's post.

During the hour-long meeting at

Istana Negara which began at 10am yesterday, Abdullah also sought the King's consent for Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak to become the next Prime Minister.

After the meeting, Abdullah told the official media covering the event: "It is a matter for Tuanku to decide."

Abdullah arrived at Istana Negara at 9.59am in his official car, a Proton Perdana bearing the number plate WCH 13.

He left the main gate of the palace with his security outriders at 10.57am and raised his hand in greeting to a horde of about 70 reporters who had gathered at the gate.

There were also several curious tourists who had come with their

tour groups to take pictures of Istana Negara.

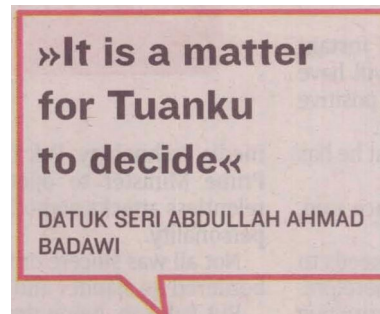
Minutes later, Najib's official car was seen going past the palace. It was learnt that he was on his way to Abdullah's residence at Jalan Bellamy where the two leaders met for about 10 minutes.

Najib was then called to the palace and arrived at 11.28am for an audience with Tuanku Mizan.

At 12.15pm, he exited the palace gate but did not stop to speak to the gathered journalists.

He merely waved through an open window and said, "Thank you".

Meanwhile, the Pakatan Rakyat parties in a joint statement said it had sent a memorandum signed by



all 81 Pakatan MPs calling on the King to postpone the swearing-in ceremony.

They said the new Prime Minister's name should be cleared by an independent commission before the swearing-in takes place.