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Najib announces dissolution - finally

Announcement made at 11.32am yesterday



PUTRAJAYA: The guessing game is finally over after months of intense speculation with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak announcing to the nation that Parliament is dissolved to pave the way for the 13th general election.

The much-awaited announcement was made at 11.32am yesterday at Bangunan Perdana Putra and carried "live" by television stations.

Najib had earlier sought an audience with the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah for his consent to dissolve Parliament.

Prior to the announcement, the Prime Minister's Office, for the first time, used Twitter to alert netizens of the scheduled "live" broadcast of Najib's announcement.

Clad in a dark-coloured suit and red tie, Najib, who was flanked by his deputy Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and in the presence of his Cabinet ministers, called for all parties concerned to ensure peaceful and smooth elections in the interest of the nation.

He gave his commitment to respect and preserve the democratic process and the decision made by the people and urged the Opposition to also be committed to this.

Najib guaranteed that any transition of power would be conducted in a peaceful and orderly manner, adding that this was in line with the democratic principles, the politics of transformation and national interest.

He said political parties involved must be responsible, adding that they should not "sow the poisonous seeds of suspicion" and destroy the trust and integrity of the election process just because they were not confident of the rakyat's support.



iSnap me for a video on announcement of dissolution

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Business as usual: Najib presiding at the Cabinet meeting before announcing the dissolution of Parliament. - Bernama

"Let it be a lesson for us to learn from what happened in countries that had attempted to use this tactic," he said.

"The end result is there was no confidence in the outcome of the elections and the elected governments, including parties which used this tactic, were rejected by the people. In the end, there will be instability, loss of investors' confidence and national image will be destroyed and the people will suffer."

He added that elections in Malaysia had been carried out in a responsible, fair and transparent manner.

Najib, who took office as Prime Minister four years ago, yesterday said he and his Cabinet had implemented changes and reforms based

on the 1Malaysia - People First, Performance Now - concept.

The people, he said, could see and experience changes carried out under the national transformation programmes, which had improved their lives and prospered the country, stressing that the government of today was responsible and placed the people's interests above everything else.

Najib reminded the people that this election was not just about choosing their representatives but also electing a government that could fulfil their aspirations and hopes for the future of their children and the country. As such, he said, they must not forgo their right to vote and to do it wisely.

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