



PERDANA LIBRARY  
 PERDANA LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION  
 NEWSPAPER CLIPPING

Newspaper	New Straits Times
Date	22/7/2013

MONDAY, JULY 22, 2013

PRIME NEWS

# Younger village heads soon

NST  
 22/7/2013

**STRENGTHENING THE GRASSROOTS:** 65 age limit, courses for village committee members

**ADIE SURI ZULKEFLI  
 AND ILI SHAZWANI**  
 JITRA  
 news@nst.com.my

**T**HE new model of the Village Development and Security Committee (JKKK) will be implemented next year to strengthen the grassroots leadership.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said among the measures to be introduced included a new age cap for the new committee members, in line with the government's plan to empower the institution.

He said the term for the current JKKK leadership, which ended last month, had been extended till the end of this year.

The new model would cap the age limit for the JKKK chairman at 65, which was deemed more reasonable.

"After the age of 70, it may be difficult for a person to carry out his work. If we were to use the age for civil servants, at 60 some say they still have the energy to work," he said in his speech after breaking fast with the 1,900 JKKK members in the state at Dewan Wawasan in Kubang Pasu here.

Najib said other measures included adding knowledge-gather-



Datuk Seri Najib Razak attending a 'buka puasa' function with the Kedah Village Development and Security Committee members in Kubang Pasu, Jitra, yesterday. Pic by Amran Hamid

ing and improving the effectiveness of the JKKK leadership.

"The new JKKK committee members will be required to attend courses to improve their services to the rakyat on the ground."

He said the government had always appreciated the role played by JKKK and had raised the allowance of its chairmen and secretaries, as well as meeting allowances.

He said the new measures would be announced in full by Rural and Regional Development Minister Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal.

On another matter, Najib gave his full commitment to help the Kedah government deliver its promises to the people in the state.

Najib said the Barisan Nasional government could not afford to fail as the people of Kedah had given their support to BN after years of disappointment under Pas' rule.

"As the PM, it is my obligation to give 110 per cent commitment to the Kedah government as the rakyat had given their support and mandate to the state BN."

Najib said he was committed to-

wards helping Kedah address issues close to the people such as affordable housing, poverty eradication, improving the infrastructure in rural areas and speeding up development to create ample job opportunities to the people.

He said the two major projects to develop Bukit Kayu Hitam and Rubber City in Padang Terap would get full backing from the Federal Government.

"Hopefully, by showing our appreciation to the people and delivering on our promises, the raky-

at will keep supporting BN in the next general election."

Najib attributed the sound victory recorded by Kedah BN to the leaders' unity.

Present at the event were Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Mukhriz Mahathir, Rural and Regional Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal, Deputy Energy, Green Technology and Water Minister Datuk Seri Mahadzir Khalid and Deputy Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Ahmad Bashah Md Hanipah.