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BERNAMA



Saddened ... Najib emotional as he speaks about the Lahad Datu intrusion.

## Sovereignty at stake: Najib

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak yesterday said the government will not allow any action that threatened even an inch of the nation's land.

Speaking at the assembly of Ulama-Umara dan Asnaf at the Putra Stadium in Bukit Jalil, Najib said as head of the government, he has decided that the period of consideration shown towards the armed Sulu intruders at Lahad Datu, Sabah, had ended and the country needed to act with all its might.

"Because this a question of our peace and sovereignty, we will not allow an inch of our land to be threatened by anyone.

"As I speak, our armed forces and police in armoured vehicles, and personnel following these vehicles are weeding out the intruders who are violating our country's sovereignty," Bernama quoted him as saying.

He said the government had exercised prudence in the early stage, mainly to prevent bloodshed in Sabah, not only among Malaysians but also among the Sulu gunmen.

However, the prime minister said he was disappointed that the good intentions were reciprocated with shooting and killing of policemen.

He said he was thankful that the rakyat were generally supportive of the government's stand and action taken against the intruders.

Meanwhile, **MICHELLE CHUN** reports that Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Mohd Nazri Abdul Aziz said the intruders may be charged under Malaysian law for crimes committed.

"If they have broken the laws of Malaysia, they should be charged under the laws of Malaysia for whatever crime, certainly murder," he told a press conference.

He also said this was an intrusion into the country and should therefore be dealt with as such.

"This is an intrusion, not an invasion or war, so we must be proper in dealing with the situation.

"When it comes to national security, it is the responsibility of the police," he said.