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Newspaper	New Straits Times
Date	4/5/2013

STRONG MANDATE:

'BN has a clear road map and direction'

NST-4/5/2013

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TWO days before polling, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak made a heartfelt call for voters to place their faith in Barisan Nasional, for the

sake of the country's future generations.

In an interview with TV3 last night, the BN chairman also asked Malaysians to vote wisely.

"Not only do we need a strong mandate from the people, but I want to stress that based on merit, other than a vision, we also have a clear road map and direction. And we have proven, in the last four years, that we can implement the national transformation agenda."

Najib asked voters to ruminate on peace, stability and progress before casting their ballots.

"Firstly, they need to make a wise judgment on who they will vote for. They have to make their decision with a rational mindset after taking everything into account, on who is the most trustworthy in determining their future, where they can have the confidence to say tomorrow will be better than today.

"Secondly, don't forget to go out and vote. Don't be scared. There's nothing to be afraid of. This is simply a psychology (war) of fear (by irresponsible parties). If we succumb to this, it will mean those who are responsible for (creating

distrust) will succeed."

BN needs to win 148 out of 222 parliamentary seats to win a two-thirds majority.

Earlier, when Najib met a group of editors, he said as of now, developments on the ground have indicated that BN could win between 140 and 155 parliamentary seats. He said BN had a good chance to achieve a two-thirds majority in the 13th General Election.

Based on the positive response from the ground during the campaign period, Najib said it was heartening and also extraordinary.

"Taking into account the reception given to me, the deputy prime minister and my other colleagues, I find that our aspiration to get the two-thirds majority, God willing, shows signs that it is achievable.

"In the meantime, I do not want us to be complacent. We have two more days and so we must continue to work hard."

Najib said continuous progress and Vision 2020 would not be achievable without a strong mandate from the people.

"This time around, the mandate is very important because we only

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'Vision 2020 can't be achieved without strong mandate'

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Najib said continuous progress and Vision 2020 would not be achievable without a strong mandate from the people.

"This time around, the mandate is very important because we only have seven years left to realise the Malaysian ideal (Vision 2020). Can you imagine what would happen if we didn't get the mandate, what would happen to our vision? I don't

think it would be achievable."

Najib said Malaysians, regardless of race, have benefited from the policies and transformation programmes by BN.

For example, he said, the Chinese have gained much in terms of economic development.

"We have successfully provided a conducive business environment for them.

"Not only in education, but business opportunities too, where they get concessions apart from contracts. When they are awarded with

these concessions, they are allowed to make money."

Najib said Pas was staring defeat in the face in the states of Kelantan and Kedah due to self-glorification, which led to them politicising religion, and prolonged infighting.

He was also candid when reiterating that BN was not behind any malicious text messages that were sent to the masses.


"We are not stupid to do something that will adversely affect our chances at the polls," said Najib.

In quashing allegations that BN

was ferrying voters from Sabah and Sarawak following a number of increased flights from the two states to the peninsula, Najib used common sense to make things clearer against inane accusations.

"There are also people from the peninsula who work in Sabah and Sarawak. They are simply going back to their hometown to vote.

"For example, I can't stop voters working in Kuala Lumpur returning to vote in Pekan."

 [Read the full transcript of the interview at www.nst.com.my.](http://www.nst.com.my)