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Najib rebuts 13 allegations by critics

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PM responds to questions raised such as BR1M, 1MDB and new jet purchase

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PETALING JAYA: Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak has responded to 13 issues raised against him and his administration on his blog, including allegations regarding murdered Mongolian translator Altantuya Shaariibuu.

The Prime Minister said he took time to look at the questions raised – from the 1Malaysia People's Aid (BR1M), 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) to the purchase of a new jet – and had decided to pen down his thoughts on them.

On the Altantuya case, Najib said it was disturbing that it had been brought up again.

"We all know that if veteran leaders insist on bringing it up, even

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– DATUK SERI NAJIB TUN RAZAK

in passing, it would automatically cause the issue to be resurrected," he said on <http://www.najibrazak.com> yesterday.

The Prime Minister said the case had been investigated, tried and concluded in the Federal Court.

"Such influential individuals have many resources. When the issue

erupted, I believe they would still have been able to verify the validity of the allegations. If they believed this to be true, why did they not raise it when the issue erupted eight years ago?" he asked.

On the allegations against 1MDB, Najib, who is its board chairman, said it was unfair to convict the Government in the court of public opinion before the actual facts were laid down by the Auditor-General and the Public Accounts Committee.

"We all want detailed answers but it is only proper to let the auditors do their job and tell us clearly what the situation really is.

"If we pre-empt it, we would be undermining them, as many others have done. This is not the proper procedure.

"If we are sincere in finding out

the truth behind those allegations, we need information from legitimate sources (like the Auditor-General) and not third party news portals or online blogs that might have hidden agendas," he said.

On claims that he did worse as an Umno president than his predecessor Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Najib said Barisan Nasional won 11 state governments compared to nine, in the last general election.

"To fully turn around Barisan, I need time," he said, adding that the impact of the Government's transformation programme would assure the people that the Barisan government would deliver on its promise.

He also quashed claims that Barisan would lose the next general election under his leadership, citing

several government initiatives and the country's economic growth as basis for the people to continue their support.

"Improvements are happening before our eyes. But I know many would of course rather look at the bad and continue to harp on never-ending rumours, half-truths and spins," he said.

He also defended the Government's decision to buy the new jet, saying that it was standard practice across the world for leaders to use official jets, not for luxury, but for efficiency in carrying out their duties.

"The aircraft's interior is configured such that meetings and discussions can be held on board and that the work of state can continue even during the flight," he said.