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'It is time to move forward'

We have to regain public confidence, PM tells new Cabinet

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PUTRAJAYA: It's time to get back to serving the people and regaining public confidence, Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak told his new Cabinet line-up.

"Now that we are done with the Cabinet reshuffle, we need to move forward.

"There is a lot to do, especially in economic matters. Our priority is to lower the cost of living for the people," he said when addressing the monthly assembly of the Prime Minister's Department here yesterday.

He said it was not just about helping the people put food on the table as there were also other problems that needed addressing such as affordable housing, employment and improving government service.

"These are all detailed in the National Transformation Policy.

"Under the 11th Malaysia Plan, the focus is to help double the income of those in the bottom 40% group within the next five years," he added.

Najib also said the Government has a task to address the "confidence deficit" that is affecting it.

"On social media, the battle between perception and reality is our challenge.

"Perception always tends to be stronger than reality.

"However, I believe all of these concerns can be addressed if the



Raya cheer: Najib and Rosmah attending the Finance Ministry's Raya open house in Putrajaya.

Cabinet works as one strong unit. We can overcome all challenges if we work together," said Najib.

He also thanked former Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin for his service and also mentioned other former Cabinet members Datuk Seri G. Palanivel, Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal, Datuk Seri Hasan

Malek and Datuk Dr Ewon Ebin.

Speaking at the Finance Ministry Hari Raya gathering, Najib who is also Finance Minister, said the Government was preparing a better financial and fiscal strategy to meet the people's aspiration.

The Prime Minister said the present world and regional economic

situation poses a great challenge.

"We need to be more focused and work as a team," he said.

Also present were his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Second Finance Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah and Deputy Finance Ministers Datuk Chua Tee Yong and Datuk Johari Abdul Ghani.