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Najib goes down memory lane

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PM visits Pekan constituency to mark 40 years in politics

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PEKAN: Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak spent the anniversary of his 40 years in politics at the place where his political journey first started in 1976.

The Prime Minister's Pekan constituency, which he first won uncontested in a by-election five weeks after the death of his father Tun Abdul Razak Hussein, was a hive of activity yesterday.

Najib attended several events to mark the occasion, which included the launch of the DRB-Hicom University of Automotive Malaysia (DHU).

In his speech, Najib praised the setting up of the university in his constituency which is an automotive assembly hub, as it would provide more opportunities for students including from Pekan, to

upgrade their knowledge in the field.

"I am proud when a private company is willing to invest a large sum of money to develop skilled human capital in order to fulfil the needs of the automotive industry locally and on the international level," he said.

Previously known as the International College of Automotive, DHU was accorded university status by the Higher Education Ministry in October last year.

DRB-Hicom spent RM350mil to set up the university. It will spend a further RM150mil to build a research and development facility for the university.

Also present at the launch were Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh, Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob, Najib's wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor and DRB-Hicom Bhd group



Looking back: Najib looking at old photos while visiting Tengku Panglima Besar Pahang Tengku Datuk Ibrahim Tengku Sulaiman at his house in Kampung Parit Tengah. Tengku Ibrahim is among those who encouraged Najib to enter the political arena. — Bernama

managing director Tan Sri Mohd Khamil Jamil.

The launch was followed by the installation of Tengku Mahkota Pahang Tengku Abdullah as the first chancellor of DHU.

Bernama quoted Tengku Abdullah as saying that Najib's achievements throughout his four decades in politics and government administration was a source of pride, especially among the people of Pekan.

"His accomplishments carry with it a significant sense of nostalgia. There have been many ups and downs but we are proud of the many things which he has done," Tengku Abdullah said in congratulating Najib on his 40th anniversary in politics.

The university held its third convocation later in the day with a total of 230 graduates.

Najib in a posting on his blog yesterday said he was happy with the

country's 5% Gross Domestic Product growth last year despite a challenging and uncertain economic outlook.

The Prime Minister said that the 5% growth put Malaysia as among the best performing economies in Asean last year.

"I am confident that we can weather the global economic challenges and ensure that Malaysia's economy remains solid, stable and on the right path," Najib wrote.