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GPMS wants Najib to **reject** UEC

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> Chinese school exam system not in line with national education policy, says group

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KUALA LUMPUR: A Malay students group has urged Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak not to recognise the UEC (Unified Examination Certificate).

Stating its stand against UEC, the Gabungan Pelajar Melayu Semenanjung (GPMS) stressed this examination system is not in line with the national education policy.

"Recently, you received pressure from a political party to give recognition to the UEC (as a qualification) for entry to public universities.

"GPMS urges the government to reject any recognition for UEC," GPMS president Zambri Mohd Isa said at its annual general meeting here yesterday.

He said UEC has clearly "ignored" the national education policy as it does not want to abide by the national curriculum, but uses a curriculum which is "copied from Taiwan".

Urging Najib to rethink any plan to recognise UEC, Zambri said the transparency of the examination system is doubtful as it is administered by a private Chinese body.

"We understand you are the PM for all Malaysians, but we

hope you would reconsider any recognition for UEC. This is not a racial matter but a question of respecting the national education policy.

"UEC clearly does not respect the education system in this country. There should not be two exam systems providing entry to public universities as it would affect the chances of those with Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM)," he said.

Zambri said the government should strengthen unity through education by holistically empowering national schools.

Najib did not address the UEC issue in his speech but urged GPMS to strive to be a "superior" NGO in championing Malay dignity.

Najib has met with the Education Ministry and Higher Education Ministry as well as relevant parties to find a solution that will be acceptable to all on the recognition of UEC as a public university entrance qualification.

It was reported in July that he had instructed ministers from MCA and other Chinese-based parties to play their roles to convince both ministries to recognise the certification.

On Nov 15, MCA chief Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai said the party has vigorously pushed for recognition of the UEC.

