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We are not selling off country to foreigners, says Najib

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PEKAN: Getting foreign investment does not mean that Malaysia has been sold off to foreigners, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

He said there were certain parties that wanted to create controversy after he brought back RM144bil worth of investments from China.

"This is no different from when we get investments from Japan, South Korea, the United States and European countries.

"It does not mean we are selling off our country to any of them. It's fine when we get investments from Europeans but when it is China, they say our country's sovereignty has been sold off," he said at a gathering with his Chinese constituents at SJK(C) Pekan here yesterday.

Najib said the investments would definitely benefit Malaysians, not only in the form of projects like the East Coast Rail Line but also by the rising price of palm oil after China agreed to buy more of the commodity.

"The world today is intertwined. In a globalised world, we cannot simply view everything negatively, especially when foreigners want to buy our products," he said.

Najib, who is Pekan MP, asked his constituents not to let the detractors confuse them as they were doing so for political interests.

He also gave out red packets to 366 senior citizens at the event.

Earlier, at the closing ceremony of a pre-marriage course, Najib told participants that a strong family bond could deter one from getting influenced by radical ideologies.

"We have seen Malaysians leaving everything behind just to join the Islamic State and become suicide bombers. It could be due to troubled familial relations that they fall for extreme ideologies and try to find happiness elsewhere.

"Family is the foundation of a successful community and nation. We should place emphasis on individual and family values because it will contribute to successful nation building," he said.



Lifting up spirits: Najib giving out ang pow to attendees of a special afternoon function in Pekan. About 366 senior citizens who attended the event received ang pow and mandarin oranges. — Bernama