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'More than just arms, laws'

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> Important to win ideological war against terrorism threat, says Najib

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PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia's military assets and anti-terrorism legislation alone will not be enough in the global fight against terrorism, said Prime

Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak.

"This is a serious threat. If we want to win the war against terrorism, it will need more than using weapons and making arrests," he said at the Prime Minister's monthly gathering yesterday.

Najib said it was important to win the ideological warfare against the threat of terrorism. But more than that, it was vital "to understand what Islam really is, what it demands of us".

He said this can be done by explaining to the public the true teachings of Islam, adding that the public should be wary of groups pretending to be righteous but had ill-intentions.

Najib was responding to recent attacks in Kabul, Manchester (United Kingdom), Marawi City (the Philippines), Jakarta and Sunday's London attack.

"In Kabul, 80 people are dead. The Manchester (bombing) claiming 22 lives. There were also (attacks) in London, Marawi, Manila and Jakarta. All of these sadden us."

On the country's progress, Najib, who is

also finance minister, said the country's economic achievements in the first quarter was extraordinary, recording a growth of 5.6%, with exports at RM82.83 billion in March.

He called on civil servants to make this year the year of delivery and prove to the people that the government was able to achieve its targets.

"We do not make empty promises. We are a responsible government," he said.

Najib said the achievements made by Malaysia should be used by all to bring the country forward.

"We have created the momentum and we must build on it."

While stressing that a responsible government fulfilled promises made for the well-being of the people, he said the completed 51km Sungai Buloh-Kajang phase of the Mass Rapid Transit project would start operations next month.

"We do not venture into anything that cannot be done. As a responsible government, we fulfil the promises that we make," he said.