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PM: We won't tolerate insults

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak said Malaysia will not tolerate any disrespect or insults to the country's sovereignty.

He was referring to relations between Malaysia and North Korea, which have been strained following ambassador Kang Chol's accusations over investigations into the murder investigation of Kim Jong-Nam.

On whether the government would review diplomatic ties with North Korea, he said: "We will see. We will take one step at a time."

Najib said the government is not expecting any apology from North Korea.

"We are not getting anything. We don't expect them to say anything," he said at Parliament yesterday.

Najib said any official sent to Malaysia must respect the country's laws and apologise for any improper statements.

"This shows that we are strict when it comes to our dignity and sovereignty. No one can insult our country or create problems here as they like," he said.

Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein said he hopes the matter will not deteriorate further.

"The matter is with the foreign office. We do not want it to reach the Defence Ministry.

"There is still room for diplomacy and



Najib handing the royal address to Sultan Muhammad V at the Dewan Rakyat.

there is still room for us to make sure that the foreign office and Home Ministry do what it takes," he told reporters after the royal address at the first meeting of the fifth session of the 13th Parliament.

Hishammuddin said he is positive that

the global community will understand Malaysia's decision.

"I am sure the world knows that what we have done is right because any independent and sovereign country would have done the same thing if placed in this situation."