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## Najib's tips for future politicians

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**PUTRAJAYA:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak shared his wisdom for future politicians to survive in Malaysian political scene at a dialogue session yesterday.

He said he managed to stay in the political arena for more than four decades as he was a resilient man.

"In politics, we cannot be too sensitive as it can backfire on us and our blood pressure can surge. When it goes up, we 'jalanlah' (die)," Najib said during the National Transformation 2050 (TN50) dialogue session with arts activists at Seri Perdan.

Also present at the session were Najib's wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor and Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Seri Salleh Said Keruak.

When asked by dialogue moderator Datuk Rosyam Nor on how he maintained his composure in politics, Najib said in jest he had a "switch off" button when dealing with pressure.

"I can switch off ... whenever I am too stressed when people are attacking me, I will go back home and switch (myself) off," he said.

Najib also said the government does not expect everyone to agree with its policies, adding he is open to constructive criticism.

"We can accept opinions that are realistic

and good, but not from those who only know how to criticise or give illogical opinions," he added.

Najib also gave an assurance that arts activists would not be sidelined as the country moved forward to achieve TN50, adding that those in the entertainment industry should be put into the mainstream.

He said local artistes should not only be seen as entertainers as they could play an important role to define the nation's path.

"Arts activists can be made into idols. They can help to mould the future generation."

At one point during the dialogue, a brief commotion erupted involving a producer and an artiste.

In the incident, actor Sulaiman Yassin, popularly known as Mat Over, slapped Metrowealth Pictures producer Datuk David Teo during a question-and-answer session.

The incident occurred just a few metres from where Najib was standing with Rosyam.

The scuffle happened when Teo, in posing a question, raised his voice and criticised Rosyam for not according sufficient attention to those seated at the back to speak.

It was believed that Sulaiman was upset with Teo's conduct and confronted him.

Both were subsequently escorted out of the venue by the security officials, but were later invited back into the hall and were seen shaking hands with each other and Najib.