

Opposition wants reforms first
The New Straits Times
August 17, 2011

KUALA LUMPUR: The opposition wants Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib to guarantee that the next general election will not take place until total electoral reform has taken place.

The demand was made following Najib's announcement that a parliamentary select committee on electoral reforms would be set up to put to rest any suspicion that there was manipulation by the government in the country's electoral process.

Pas vice-president and Kubang Kerian MP Salahuddin Ayub said he and other opposition leaders, including Shah Alam member of parliament Khalid Samad, Cheras MP Tan Kok Wai, Lembah Pantai MP Nurul Izzah Anwar and Pas secretary-general Datuk Mustafa Ali, were unhappy that they had not been consulted.

"We had not been informed nor consulted. What are the terms of reference? Who will head it? There is no point (in forming the committee) if it follows the parliamentary setting where the committee is led by the government and the opposition only forms the minority," he said.

Among the MPs' demands were that the head of the select committee should come from the opposition and that international accounting firms like PricewaterhouseCoopers and Ernst & Young be roped in to perform independent auditing on the current electoral process and system.

Copyright © The New Straits Times Press (Malaysia) Berhad
Source: <http://www.nst.com.my/nst/articles/2MMSEL/Article/>