

Najib Wants Umno Members To Put Aside Self Interest
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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 26 (Bernama) - Leading up to the Umno general assembly starting Tuesday, Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak wants Umno members to put party above self interest.

Najib who is also Umno president said party members must show commitment to make sacrifices and not let personal feelings or interests overcome party interests.

"People who join the party are many but we want more party people who know the spirit, goals and interests of the party. This is what we want to instill in 3.4mil Umno members," he said in an interview with Bernama here Saturday.

The five day 2011 Umno general assembly is seen by many as the last assembly before the 13th general election.

The Prime Minister said Umno members must have feelings of "love and affection" for the party and willing to make sacrifices for the party.

"This is one of the party's principles. We are not asking them to sacrifice their wealth to the party or take personal risks.

"But we ask them not to let personal feelings or demands by groups to overcome interests of the party," he said.

Umno members should be wary of things that can adversely affect the party, and should refrain from doing them as it could weaken the party.

"Everyone in Umno know all these things but just knowing about it will not make it disappear," said Najib.

Asked about the general assembly which began with a forum and an international conference, he said the programme was not primed for the general election but a vehicle to highlight the party's intellectual value.

It was also to illustrate the role of Umno internationally so that the world understands the objectives of the party, particularly the National Transformation Plan.

He also denied allegations that Umno did not champion the interests of Malay causing them to feel marginalised, as the party's agenda continues.

"That is not true. Although we have the 1Malaysia slogan, we never said that the bumiputera agenda is gone. In fact, it is still the main agenda (Umno) and part of our national agenda.

"What we do with other races is to show that it is our government, a fair government that stands on the pillars of social justice."

Najib said the bumiputera agenda will continue, for example, the Bumiputera Agenda Unit

(Teraju) that he launched this morning.

"It is a road map where we announced several new initiatives. This means that we never put aside or dilute our struggle for bumiputeras."

Asked about the stand by some Malays that they could survive without Umno, Najib said the people should be aware that the country's success is the result of Umno's struggle.

Citing the theory of American psychologist, Abraham Maslow, he said Umno has successfully met the basic demands of the people by providing various facilities.

He said the diversity of opinion is a sign that society has become more sophisticated and matured.

"I don't say that they must feel indebted to us as many will not be happy. What I want to say is that that in addition to our track record and deeds, is our planning for the future.

"What we can promise to the people of Malaysia and Umno is real security that we have delivered and can deliver. InsyaAllah we not only make promises but are able to deliver them to the people," he added.

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