

**Umno May Field Many New Faces In Next Election - Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 3 (Bernama) -- Umno is expected to field many new faces in the next general election compared to the previous elections.

Umno president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the move was not only necessary to strengthen the party but also to show that Umno was a dynamic party that was always willing to undertake changes.

"We normally do this during the general election...there will certainly be changes and in some areas, we find that innovations are certainly needed.

"Probably this time the line-up of new faces may be bigger, probably more than in the last general election in terms of new faces..." the Prime Minister told reporters at the conclusion of the Umno General Assembly 2011, here Saturday.

Also present at the media conference was Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, who is also Umno deputy president.

Commenting further, Najib said there were Umno elected representatives who had seen him personally, expressing their willingness to make way for new faces in the next general election.

On the suggestion by the delegates that the names of candidates be announced much earlier, Najib said the announcement could not be too early nor too late.

"We are studying for the right time. If in the past, we found it very difficult to make the announcement late, but if the announcement is too early, there may be other problems," he said.

Responding to a question whether the existing elected representatives would be retained for the next general election, Najib said those showing good performance could possibly be renominated in the 13th general election.

"Because, when we sounded out the concept of a winnable candidate, we did not say two or three terms after which we replace them. We hold on to the concept of a winnable candidate," he said.

Asked whether Umno and the BN would hold discussions with Independent candidates to contest in a particular constituency, Najib said this would be decided later.

Meanwhile, Najib hoped that the present Umno elected representatives who might not be renominated for the next general election would continue to give their support to the new candidate chosen by the top leadership.

"I hope that they support the new candidate because when they were first nominated, the people supported them and they had risen up because other people had made way for them, otherwise, they could not go up.

"So, when the time comes, they must make way for the sake of the party. I hope they understand and will support the party, and accept the fact that they had benefited before from the support given by the other people," Najib added.

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