

**Budget 2012 Reflects Government's Touch With People, Says PM**  
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 16 (Bernama) -- The 2012 Budget is much talked about because it reflects the government is in touch with the pulse of the people, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

He said the government listened to the people's needs and problems and translated them into the 2012 Budget and various other incentives.

"If the people feel the pressure from the rising cost of living, we must address the problem. So for the first time in our history, we are giving RM500 to households with income of RM3,000 and below.

"There is no race quota. There is no regional quota, from Perlis, Padang Besar to Semporna. This is the people's budget.

"We listen to the people, Living cost, housing, education, health, these are the four basic needs of the people," he said when opening the 40th Gerakan national delegates conference (NDC) here today.

Najib said the 2012 Budget over-shadowed the shadow budget tabled by the opposition.

"Wherever I go, people are talking about the 2012 Budget and that the shadow budget remains a shadow. It is in the shadow because the 2012 Budget is shining so brightly," he added.

He said the opposition could not say that the 2012 Budget was unrealistic because it was based on the government's capability and the needs of Malaysians.

"I want to see, when it is implemented next year, what will they (opposition) say. When we start giving RM500 to families with household income of RM3,000 and below, I want to see what they will say. When the government servants and pensioners get their bonus, I want to see what they are going to say," he added.

He also criticised the opposition for not being consistent in their stand on the 2012 Budget.

"At one time they say we copy their budget and the next they say our budget is unrealistic. They cannot decide," he added.

He also hit out at the opposition members in Parliament for their "very fiscal right wing Republican conservatism" when debating the 2012 Budget.

"They only raised questions of deficit and debt, but did not touch on people's interests," he added.

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