

Umno activates disciplinary panel before polls
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KUALA LUMPUR: Umno is activating its disciplinary committee to monitor the activities of its members from now onwards to ensure that they toe the party line until the elections.

Party president Datuk Seri Najib Razak said this was the first time Umno had activated its disciplinary committee before the general election had been called.

"We normally deal with issues after a general election is over.

"It is better to start monitoring our (election) machinery early and take action to deal with disciplinary matters," he said after chairing the first Umno supreme council meeting for this year last night.

Najib, who is also the prime minister, said the decision was made because Umno wanted to be proactive and deal with issues earlier, rather than waiting after the general election.

Asked if he had anticipated trouble, which led to the decision to activate the party's disciplinary committee early, the party president said during elections it was normal for parties to deal with unhappiness and dissatisfaction among those who were not selected as candidates and the actions of their supporters could be damaging to the party.

He said so far he had not received any complaints and said the party would handle issues through a fair process by the disciplinary committee.

On the party's readiness to face the coming general election, he said efforts were ongoing and that the supreme council members had been given tasks and would execute the duties assigned to them.

Meanwhile, Najib said he had received positive feedback on the Bantuan Rakyat 1Malaysia programme.

"We will ensure all those qualified will get their share and give ample time for those who want to appeal to do so."

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