

PM's apology proof of his humility, says Muhyiddin
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Najib's measures have had a positive impact

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak's apology to the people on Saturday shows that he is a humble man.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin acknowledged that although the government had weaknesses and had made mistakes, the Barisan Nasional-led government had also achieved much success in various fields, such as the economy and nation-building, in its 54 years of rule.

At a press conference yesterday, after launching World Kidney Day 2012, he said what was important now was what could be done by the government in the future.

"We are prepared to improve what we've done so far. The National Transformation Programme and Rural Transformation Programme are approaches taken by the prime minister, and people can see that they have made a positive impact.

"The people know our weaknesses. The last defeat (2008 general election) has taught us what our weaknesses are and what improvements should be done by our wakil rakyat."

Najib, who is also BN chairman, said on Saturday at a meet-the-people session in Kuala Ketil, Kedah, that the losses in the 2008 general election was because BN had made mistakes. He had said the coalition had learnt from its mistakes and promised the people it would make amends.

Muhyiddin also refuted Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim's statement on Saturday that the government's privatisation policy enriched an elite group of companies linked to the BN government at the public's expense.

Khalid was reported as saying that "privatisation has served to privatise only profits, while socialising losses".

Muhyiddin said privatisation could not be avoided as the government wanted the private sector to become the engine that spurred the nation's economic growth.

He said this should be the case instead of the public sector, with the government acting the role of facilitator.

"We have our policy to privatise services, facilities and infrastructure but this is done on a consideration basis. Many good things have come out of this.

"Privatisation has created a good impact in improving the socio-economic lot of the people. I don't know what Khalid is saying but more people can experience the benefits from the private sector."

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