

Najib makes single mum's day
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NIBONG TEBAL: It was double joy for single mother Teoh Yong King, from Perkampungan Jawi here, when Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak personally handed over the key to her new house.

"I am touched by the prime minister's kindness in approving a special allocation to rebuild my house.

"It is even more meaningful as Datuk Seri Najib himself came to hand over the key," said the mother of four.

Teoh, 57, lost her semi-wooden house in a fire on Jan 14, forcing her to seek shelter at a nearby temple with her 27-year-old son and three grandchildren.

Jawi MCA chief Tan Cheng Liang and Nibong Tebal Barisan Nasional chairman Datuk Zainal Abidin Osman had attended to Teoh's case and applied for a special allocation from the Federal Government to rebuild the house.

Najib had subsequently approved RM40,000 through the Rural and Regional Development Ministry and the house was completed recently.

"The new house is much better than my old one. I cannot be more grateful for this gift," Teoh said.

Earlier, Najib made a short stop at a coffee stall in the village, where he spent about 10 minutes chatting with the residents.

Later in the day, the prime minister met with Indian and Chinese based-non-governmental organisations at Universiti Sains Malaysia, near here.

The meeting with the Indian NGOs saw the hall packed.

Najib, who was accompanied by MIC president Datuk Seri G. Palanivel and Penang MCA chairman Datuk Seri Dr Ng Yen Yen, presented mock keys to nine families for their new homes in Teluk Ayer Tawar.

The nine families, who previously lived in the now-demolished Kampung Buah Pala, were led by 88-year-old A. Draviam.

Draviam placed a flower garland over Najib and hugged the latter prior to receiving the mock key.

"BN has helped the Indians a lot," said an emotional Draviam.

Najib then addressed a crowd comprising Chinese NGOs at a closed-door meeting.

He said the meetings showed that Indian and Chinese NGOs had an open attitude towards engaging with BN, and more specifically, with himself.

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