

**Trust, Support From Chinese Community For BN Rising - Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR, April 10 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said trust and support from the Chinese community for the Barisan Nasional government has been rising since he took over the administration of the country.

The prime minister said through the various engagement activities carried out by him since three years ago, the support was on the uptrend although the percentage was lower as compared to the other communities.

"It is lower but the trend is on the rise. I believe if the engagement process is continued, programmes implemented (by the government) can be felt by the majority of the people and we are fair to all, the support level will be higher," he said.

Najib said this when he appeared on the 'Chat Time With...Najib' programme which was aired live on the NTV7 television channel Monday night.

In the one-hour programme, the prime minister said the reality was that the government was aware there were voters who were 'fence sitters' (yet to decide who to back in the election).

When asked about his target in terms of support from the Chinese community for BN in the coming general election, Najib said it would be impossible to obtain 100 per cent support in a parliamentary democracy.

"What's important is that we get support that allows us to win seats, especially parliamentary seats. We want the majority in the areas concerned to favour BN," he said, adding that this also depended on the racial composition of the particular area. On whether he was worried about the voting trend of the Chinese community which is said to be difficult to predict, Najib stressed that support from all races was important and needed attention.

"I have stated that I am a prime minister for all, meaning my responsibility is to oversee the welfare and wellbeing of all races.

"Through our efforts to engage and communicate effectively, we hope they will support us when the time comes," he added.

The prime minister said he better understood the attitude and aspirations of the Chinese as a result of his engagement with the community.

As such, Najib urged the Chinese community to join the government in making the government's transformation agenda a success because without the support of all quarters, it may not be achieved.

"If there's one message that I can leave to the audience, especially to Malaysian Chinese, is that it's important for them to be on board in supporting this journey towards transforming

Malaysia.

"Our agenda for transforming Malaysia is a big agenda, and it's important for them to support it and not take the attitude 'look, let's wait and see, let's stay on the sidelines.

"This transformation agenda will not take place without the support of the people," he said, adding that armed with their support he was confident that "we'll get there."

Najib, who was evasive when asked when the general election would be held, pointed out that elections in Malaysia were conducted in a clean and fair manner.

"Otherwise how could it be that we lost five states in the last election and Kelantan still continues to be in the hands of the opposition for 22 years," he said.

He continued: "Let me say very clearly that we're all for clean and fair elections. I've said it many times and I'd like to repeat it once more -- we'll not want to be elected on the basis that we have rigged or manipulated the elections.

"We want the people to really show their support in a fair and clean manner."

On the 1Malaysia People's Aid Programme (BR1M) which has been lauded by the people, Najib said if the financial position of the country further strengthened, the government would consider continuing it.

Under the programme, eligible households receive a one-off cash aid of RM500.

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