

**'Professionals hold sway'**  
**MalayMail**  
**June 13, 2012**  
**by Azril Annuar**

*Najib says their opinions instrumental in getting support for coming polls*

**PRIME MINISTER** Datuk Seri Najib Razak has requested the support of professionals for the upcoming general election as their opinions can be instrumental in garnering public support.

Speaking at the launch of the Professionals Forum (ProF) yesterday, he promised in return a "stable market" and greater chance for the professionals to continue accumulating wealth and success which come with a "predictable" political environment.

"As professionals, you are the opinion makers in this country. You are the people who have through your profession contributed much in the context of nation-building; but beyond that, you are also highly sought-after, opinion leaders in the society and country," he said.

"And the very nature of that unique position that you occupy can render you to be instrumental in getting people to support, appreciate and understand support and commit themselves in ensuring the vision of Malaysia becomes a reality."

Najib said that under the Barisan Nasional leadership and Vision 2020, professionals had greatly benefitted especially with the New Economic Model (NEM) and the transformation programmes.

"You are the people who get work. And that's the direct result of government plans and implementation based on our NEM and Economic Transformation Programme (ETP)," he said.

"Without those big whole plans for the country, the country will not move forward especially in an uncertain world like today."

Najib also pointed out that Malaysia's political certainty, predictability and stability largely contributed to the foreign investors' confidence in the nation.

"You know that the market is very sensitive. You remove that certainty and confidence, share prices will go down. And all of you have shares, I know. Any drop in confidence, what happens? Your wealth, hard work and bank loans will be rather exposed," he said.

"If the value of your assets come down, it can come down very fast. It takes years to build up assets but can disappear overnight," said Najib.

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