

PM: All Sikh civil servants to get unrecorded leave on Vaisakhi from 2013
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KUALA LUMPUR: All government servants from the Sikh community will be given a day off on Vaisakhi Day from next year.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak made this announcement at the Vaisakhi national open house event at Dataran Merdeka on Monday night.

"Beginning next year, all Sikh civil servants will be allowed to take "unrecorded leave" to celebrate Vaisakhi."

"This will allow them to fulfill their religious obligations on their day of worship," said Najib, to a thunderous round of applause from the crowd.

Vaisakhi festival celebrates the founding of the Sikh community known as the Khalsa on April 14 every year.

Najib also announced allocations for the Sikh community, totalling RM4mil, to build and repair Sikh Gurdwaras, among others.

Nearly 10,000 people from the Sikh community attended the event, some from faraway states.

The attendees were entertained by a variety of performances, including those from popular Bhangra duo Goldkartz.

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