

Opposition's promises do not make sense, says Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said one need not be an economist to know that the Opposition's promises are far-fetched and can never be implemented.

The Prime Minister believes that the Opposition has no intention of carrying out its pledges, such as lowering fuel prices, abolishing PTPTN loans and toll rates, and setting the minimum wage at RM4,000 a month.

"The promises are made just to get into office," he said at the Invest Malaysia 2012 business conference here yesterday.

"While I do not like to turn this (the conference) into a political platform, I have serious doubts with the plans offered by the other side," Najib said when asked why he deserved a strong mandate at the next general election.

"The promises are a populist approach which we, the Barisan Nasional, will not take," he said, adding that the ruling coalition offered Malaysians a credible plan for the future.

He said that with a strong mandate, Barisan could also proceed with its transformation agenda.

"Without a strong mandate, that agenda would be derailed," he said.

Najib said the Government's programmes and roadmaps were comprehensive, credible, cohesive and realistic for turning the country into a fully-developed high income nation.

"We have this clarity of vision," he added.

On the Malaysian brand, Najib said the country's uniqueness was based on it having "a bit of everything" – from cultural, religious and ethnic diversity to conservative, liberal and cosmopolitan elements.

"Taken as a whole, Malaysia probably has the best package one can possibly have in the world," he said. "It is a great place to live and do business in."

Stressing on the importance of local companies being innovative, especially in their use of technology, business processes and best business practices, the Prime Minister said they should also have a plan to grow domestically and regionally.

"Our ability to compete must no longer be on the basis of cheap labour or cheap gas from the Government; you must be able to compete because you are efficient," he said.

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