

No racist remarks, BN told
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KUALA LUMPUR: Barisan Nasional members have been warned not to utter racially sensitive remarks that could cause tension among the people.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, who is also Barisan chairman, said the members were also told to refrain from making statements that could cause friction among component party members.

"We remind members not to make statements that hurt the feelings of others," he said after chairing the Barisan supreme council meeting last night.

Najib dismissed as baseless the Opposition claims that he was delaying polls because of a lack of confidence. "Such a question does not arise. What is important is that we show our capability in continuously defending the *rakyat*," he said.

He said the *rakyat* has given Barisan a five-year mandate to govern, and there is no reason to shorten the time-frame.

"Our level of confidence is based on public support for 1Malaysia- themed programmes and various new products and transformation programmes," he said.

The meeting, which Najib described as "just a routine meet", also discussed the programmes and initiatives that have been organised by the Government and the Barisan.

"We spoke about the encouraging response from the people during visits to the ground by myself and the deputy Prime Minister. This shows that the people's confidence in Barisan Nasional is growing," he said.

"The council also has taken note that the Government has increased its engagement with various sections of the public. Among them are recent ones like the TR1MA programme with taxi drivers and the UTC (Urban Transformation Centre) initiative in Melaka. We will continue these people-friendly initiatives," said Najib.

The council meeting was attended by all component parties leaders.

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