

**BN Manifesto - A Document On 'Pledges' To The Rakyat  
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KUALA LUMPUR, April 6 (Bernama) -- The Barisan Nasional (BN) manifesto is not just a manifesto, but a document containing 'pledges' to the people, said BN chairman Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

"I do not want to say it's a manifesto because the opposition says that the manifesto is not a promise. That's why the name 'manifesto' is not quite appropriate.

"I want to say (it's) not a manifesto but a pledge to the people of Malaysia," he said in his speech at the gathering of the 1Malaysia pledge "People First" in conjunction with the launch of the BN 2013 manifesto at the Stadium Putra, Bukit Jalil, Saturday night.

Najib said as the manifesto or pledge was an important document, it must be launched at a gathering and broadcast live so that the people throughout the country could appreciate the content of the manifesto.

"They can study what is the commitment of the BN to the people," he said.

"Let the opposition say that the manifesto is not a pledge, if it's not a pledge, why present a new manifesto, what's the point of presenting a new manifesto.

"To the BN, the manifesto is a serious matter," he said.

On the other hand, Najib criticised the opposition and described their manifesto as a 'fantasy and imagination' by making all kinds of promises as they liked.

Najib, who is also the Finance Minister, said if the promises made by the opposition were to be carried out, then the country's deficit would soar to 11.5 per cent while the national debt would also jump.

"We cannot give them the opportunity to administer the country because they had not done anything in the last five years," he said.

Meanwhile, Najib described the gathering tonight as exceptional and the most outstanding throughout his 37 years' involvement in politics.

He said the gathering tonight not only demonstrated that the BN was the strongest party in the country, it was also a serious assembly to tell the people of the BN's capability to continue to be given the mandate to lead the country in the 13th general election.

More than 50,000 BN supporters had filled the Stadium Putra Bukit Jalil to witness the launching of the BN manifesto in the run up to the 13th general election and they appeared to be in high spirits and showing their strong support for BN.

The launching of the manifesto tonight was also broadcast live on RTM1, TV3 and Astro Awani.

Meanwhile, Najib described the manifesto presented by the opposition pact as a mere fantasy and imagination because the promises made were irresponsible.

He said the Finance Ministry had also made a projection that if the opposition manifesto was to be implemented, it would have a negative impact on the national economy including a soaring deficit from four percent to 11.5 percent.

"National debt will jump to 65 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), all international ratings agencies would give Malaysia a very low rating while the borrowing rate would jump...the Malaysian economy would head for a major disaster.

"That's why I call the opposition manifesto as a manifesto of fantasy and imagination," he said.

He said the people should not give the opposition a chance to lead the country because they had done nothing in the four states under their administration in the last five years.

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