

Najib to attend 3 gatherings in Sabah
New Straits Times
14 February 2013
By ROY GOH

FINDING SOLUTIONS: Election issues to be raised in meetings with party leaders

KOTA KINABALU: TWO meetings and three gatherings in Sabah will give Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak an idea of what to expect in the coming general election.

Issues related to candidacy, internal bickering and election strategies are key topics likely to be deliberated by Najib during the meetings with Umno and Barisan Nasional leaders here, and in keeping with his momentum after similar discussions in Penang and Johor over the last three days.

Najib is Barisan Nasional chairman and Umno president.

His stopovers today in three districts, especially Beaufort and Tuaran, will be the focus of attention as the two areas were previously held by BN through former Umno supreme council member Datuk Seri Lajim Ukin and United Pasokmomogun Kadazandusun Murut Organisation (Upko) deputy president Datuk Wilfred Bumburing respectively.

The two have since left BN and declared their support for the opposition. Both are expected to defend their seats in the general election on opposition tickets.

Najib, who arrived here last night, is due to meet Sabah Umno leaders at a dinner reception, followed by a breakfast meeting with state BN leaders early today.

After the meeting here, he will set off for three meet-the-people sessions in the three districts, including Papar, before returning to Kuala Lumpur in the evening.

Puteri Umno chief Datuk Rosnah Abdul Rashid Shirlin said Najib would be given a grand reception by the people. "He will get to see and listen to the rakyat who are sure to come out in droves to see him, not just in Papar but also in Beaufort and Tuaran."

Rosnah, who is Papar member of parliament, said Najib was likely to make several announcements on key development projects being planned as well as those that have been delivered, such as the widening of the road from here to Sindumin and the upgrading of a district hospital.

"He has a soft spot for us in Sabah and we will shower him with our utmost support," said Rosnah, who is also deputy health minister.

Beaufort Umno chief Isnin Aliasnih, too, believes Najib's visit would be a major boost for BN in Sabah.

Upko secretary-general Datuk Wilfred Madius Tangau said the people were looking forward to find out what development programmes were in store for Tuaran.

Madius, who was Tuaran MP before he gave way to Bumburing in the last election, said Najib would also launch the Nadi Kasih house repair programme for the constituency.

Source: <http://www.nst.com.my/nation/general/najib-to-attend-3-gatherings-in-sabah-1.218064>