

**Government To Embark On Reconciliation Efforts To Unite Malaysians - Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR, May 6 (Bernama) -- The newly elected Barisan Nasional (BN) government will embark on national reconciliation efforts to unite the people who are seemed divided as reflected in the voters "polarisation trend" in the 13th General Election, Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said.

In the coming weeks, the move would be discussed by BN leaders as a way forward for more moderate and accommodative policies for the country and to reject politics of extremism, racism and religious extremism, the prime minister said.

Najib, who is also BN chairman, said there were a lot of sentiments, some racial in nature, highlighted in this election, which he described as "very unhealthy" for the country.

"We want the people to realise that for the sake of the country, policies of the moderate should be accepted as our national policy," he told a press conference after the Election Commission announced that the BN had secured a simple majority in the 13th General Election.

Najib said that he never anticipated the results would be so racial in nature, to such an extent. Najib said the BN had a level of resilience as a political party despite the fact that it had existed for 55 years as not many political parties in the world could claim the current record that BN had achieved.

On Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman's defeat to DAP adviser Lim Kit Siang in the Gelang Patah parliamentary seat, Najib said it was not because of the former Johor Menteri Besar's factor, but more to the "Chinese tsunami" factor, which saw the community more inclined to support the opposition.

"We've tried our best, but because of several factors that have happened, particularly the lack of support from the Chinese community to BN.

"So, what we plan cannot reach out to them. Nevertheless, we are satisfied that at least we can take over the Kedah state administration," he said.

Asked to comment on the opposition's protest over the election process, Najib said they could refer any allegation to the court provided they have the proof.

"We have a transparent system, they can refer to the court, let the court decide, but the most important thing is to allow the government to run its course because we have a big agenda to fulfil, our commitment to the people of Malaysia," he said.

Najib said the most important thing for Malaysia was to show to the world that it had a matured democracy.

"Whatever happens, the decision of the people, the will of the people, must be respected. We in Barisan Nasional respect the will of the people," he said.

On the election results in Terengganu, which saw BN retaining the state by a slim majority, Najib said BN would conduct a post-mortem on the dismal performance.

In this general election, BN was returned to power in Terengganu, with a simple majority, winning only 17 of the 32 state seats up for grabs.

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