

GE13: Najib confident of wooing Chinese voters
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PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak has not given up hope and believes there is still a significant number of Chinese who can be persuaded to vote for Barisan Nasional in the general election.

“I think a large percentage of Chinese are still undecided. I believe there is still time for me and Barisan to reach out to the undecided.

“Rest assured we will try our level best to increase support for Barisan,” he said in an exclusive interview with *Sin Chew Daily* at his office here.

On the level of support from the community, Najib said: “It is about the future. It is important the politics of Malaysia is not about polarisation.

“It will be a sad day if that happens as it will lead to more problems for us managing a multiracial society.

“If the Chinese community can support Barisan and establish a strong multiracial government, I believe this will lead to a long unprecedented period of not only peace but also much economic success for Malaysia.”

To a suggestion that some in the Chinese community felt policies pertaining to the education and economy were unfair, Najib said: “It depends on where you are coming from and don't forget the Malays also have their views, too.

“I don't want it to be a zero sum game where policies are changed to accommodate the Chinese community but upset the Malay community.”

Najib said he did not promise everything would change overnight, but to bring major changes to the country, a strong government was needed.

On MCA, Najib said the Chinese community must be represented by a strong political party in the government.

“I am hoping and trying to send this message please support the Barisan component parties which represent the Chinese community.”

Najib hoped MCA would have a good outing in the elections, saying that Barisan would go all out to draw support for MCA candidates.

“They must understand that MCA is a proven partner of Barisan and Umno. I am willing to give space to MCA to bring up their demands for the Chinese community. Quite a lot of what they are doing is discussed at the Cabinet level and not discussed outside.

“People might get the impression that MCA is not vocal but it has presented the wishes of the Chinese community at the Cabinet level and the economic council,” he said.

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