

**Do Not Damage Trustworthiness Of Election Commission - Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR, June 1 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the government would extend its full cooperation to the Election Commission (EC) to further improve the credibility of general elections in the country although the 13th General Election went smoothly without a hitch.

The prime minister urged certain quarters, fuelled by self-interest, not to damage the trustworthiness of the EC by making unfounded allegations against the commission.

He said the commission was not a government agency or department but was a mechanism set up based on provisions under the Federal Constitution.

Najib said this in his congratulatory speech to Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah on his birthday and investiture ceremony involving the presentation of awards and medals at Istana Negara today.

The Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Hajah Haminah also attended the event.

Also present were the prime minister's wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and Cabinet ministers.

Najib said, to strengthen the EC's authority and credibility, the government would set up a special committee comprising members of parliament from the Barisan Nasional and the opposition to oversee the commission.

"With this move, it is hoped the EC's impartiality will not be questioned and the people's confidence towards the commission is strengthened." Najib also reported to Tuanku Abdul Halim that for the 13th time, the country saw the smooth running of the general election to select the people's representatives and form the federal and state governments.

The prime minister gave an assurance that he and the Cabinet ministers would safeguard the trust placed upon them by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong to take the country to greater heights.

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