

No licensing for online news portals, says Najib
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June 12 – The Government will not impose licensing for online news portals in Malaysia, says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

Najib said that the federal government will use existing laws already in place to maintain the country's harmony, to ensure that action is taken against anyone who fans hatred and racial sentiments or belittles the monarchy, and those who try to subvert the parliamentary democracy.

According to Star Online, Najib (picture) said this in his speech at the presentation ceremony of the Malaysia Press Institute (MPI)-Petronas Malaysian Journalism Awards 2012 here today.

He said the people must be mature and ensure social media was not misused.

"We must create an environment where there are principles and values as well as responsibility towards anything published in social media," he said.

The Singapore government recently announced that online news portals that regularly reported on the city state would be required to apply for a licence, effective June 1.

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