

**Najib chairs first meeting of new Cabinet**  
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**PUTRAJAYA -- Datuk Seri Najib Razak today chaired the first meeting of the new Cabinet at Putra Perdana here, today.**

In his address, the prime minister outlined what he thought the direction the country should take and invoked the spirit of exemplary service to ministers by giving their best to the people and the country.

The meeting, which started at 3.20pm and ended at 5.30pm, was attended by the Chief Secretary to the Government Datuk Seri Dr Ali Hamsa.

Earlier, the Cabinet ministers had a photo session with Najib.

The prime minister yesterday announced the appointment of 30 ministers and 27 deputy ministers made up of experienced ministers, technocrats and new faces whom he believed could assist him in pursuing the national transformation agenda.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin today led ministers and deputy ministers in the swearing-in ceremony before the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah at the Istana Negara.

Meanwhile, Najib stressed on the importance of transparency in government administration as this aspect had been exploited and blown out of proportion by the opposition regardless of whether it was real or mere perception.

He said now, the opposition seemed to know how perception could overcome reality.

Najib said he wanted members of the government's administration to respond faster and more assertively on any issue raised by the opposition.

The Prime Minister said he also stressed on the importance of ministers to be prepared to face more intense public scrutiny.

"It means the people have high expectations on our behaviour, whether ourselves personally or our family members.

As such, we must be aware of what we are doing, how we carry ourselves and our way of life so that the people will not question anything involving our integrity as a member of the administration," he said.

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