

GE13: Najib to meet BN component leaders
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PETALING JAYA: Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak will meet Barisan Nasional component party leaders today in what some describe as the final push before Parliament is dissolved.

Officials said the Prime Minister would meet the leaders in his office in Putrajaya to finalise the seat allocation for the general election.

They will also discuss the final list of candidates who would contest under the Barisan flag.

"He will discuss who takes which seats and everything should be finalised (today)," one of them said.

The source also said Najib arrived in Kuala Lumpur after spending several days at the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition on Tuesday and went straight into several meetings with various Umno leaders.

It is speculated that he also met "problematic" division leaders in his office in Putrajaya yesterday after the Cabinet meeting.

The source hinted that many Barisan veterans will be dropped.

"There will be a lot of new faces this time around," he said.

Parliament is expected to be dissolved at the stroke of midnight on April 28 to pave the way for the general election. The term of the Negri Sembilan Legislative Assembly expired yesterday.

At yesterday's Cabinet meeting, it was business as usual.

Various sources in the Cabinet confirmed that no group photo was taken, following the tradition set by former prime minister Tun Abdul-lah Ahmad Badawi when he summoned all his Cabinet ministers for a group photograph weeks before dissolving Parliament.

Health Minister and MCA deputy president Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai said the dissolution of Parliament or even the Negri Sembilan state legislative assembly was not discussed.

He said the Cabinet discussed the National Education Blueprint and results of the Government Transformation Programme, revealing no sign that Najib was about to call for elections.

"The Cabinet meeting (yesterday) went on as usual and the topics discussed were nothing out of the ordinary. We did not talk about the dissolution at all," he said.

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