

Najib Says It Will Take Time For Umno To Change
Bernama
8 Aug, 2013

PUTRAJAYA, Aug 8 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said Thursday it would take some time, perhaps even "a few generations", for Umno to change.

He said the party had started the process of change by amending the constitution.

"Yes, I agree Umno has to change. For Umno to be relevant, Umno must move with the times so that it reflects the changing values of society.

"I believe Umno has got the message but, like any political party, it takes time to change," he told a news conference at the Aidilfitri open house hosted by him and the cabinet ministers at Seri Perdana, here.

Najib was also asked to comment on former prime minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's book entitled 'Awakening: The Abdullah Badawi Years in Malaysia', including on the issue of Umno refusing to reform.

He said: "I will reserve my comment until I have read the book. I can't comment based on somebody else's comment. I need to read the book, (and comment) based on my interpretation of the book," he said.

Najib also said that it was easy to criticize a party in power like Umno.

"It is easy to promise but the promise of hope is not easy when you have to deliver. You must remember that many parties in the world promised hope and they have failed to deliver," he said.

When asked about Abdullah's statement that the biggest challenge for him (Najib) was resistance to transformation of the country, Najib said his transformation programme was a continuation of what was started by Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad to achieve Vision 2020 and which was supported by Abdullah.

"Now, it is my time. I have to deliver. So, that is how I see it. This is a continuation (of the work) of three prime ministers to accomplish our grand vision for Malaysia.

"I am somebody who is now responsible to fulfill that vision for all Malaysians. So, that is how I see it," he said, adding that it was a commitment for all Malaysians were excited about Vision 2020.

Najib also urged all Malaysians to respect each other to stay harmonious.

"The basic principle is that if we want to be harmonious, Muslims must not hurt the feelings of non-Muslims and non-Muslims must not hurt the feelings of Muslims.

"If there is another way of doing it, it is better not to hurt the feelings. If you go on the premise on who is right and who is wrong, we will never agree. But if you go on the premise that we should not hurt feelings, then we will be a peaceful country forever. This is my dream for Malaysia," he said.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2013 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=969013>