

**Media Must Play Role To Consolidate Nation State - Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 13 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the media had a role to play in consolidating the nation state.

He said the role of the media, specifically Utusan Melayu, was important in disseminating information to the people on policies, agenda and initiatives undertaken for Malaysians.

"Now, 75 years have passed since Utusan Melayu carried out the vision of its founders, upheld the trust and championed the wellbeing of the Malays and Malaysians through its various publications.

"Its role is recognised in opening people's minds to the latest information, be it on politics, economics, administration, government, crime, entertainment, sports and so on," he said when opening Utusan Melayu (M) Bhd's new building here today.

Also present were his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Kumpulan Utusan Melayu (M) Bhd executive chairman Tan Sri Mohamed Hashim Ahmad Makaruddin, cabinet ministers and Malaysian National News Agency (Bernama) Editor-in-Chief Datuk Zulkefli Salleh.

Najib said Utusan Melayu, which was formed on the "blood, sweat and tears" of the Malays, must be defended, and as such "their sacrifices must not be allowed to go to waste."

"Let us continue to empower and uplift Utusan Melayu," he said, adding that he would continue to help the newspaper company prosper.

He also said in line with the fast changing world, Utusan Melayu needed to master new media and try to ensure it always led change in each segment of which they were engaged in.

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