

**Najib brave to buck global trend of equal opportunity, says Utusan Malaysian Insider
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Umno-owned *Mingguan Malaysia* described Datuk Seri Najib Razak as brave for implementing a Bumiputera affirmative action policy when the global trend was towards equal opportunity, saying strengthening the Bumiputera economy is not a sin.

"The Bumiputera community is still lagging behind in all sectors including corporate, business and ownership of assets. As Najib said, if the rights of the majority race are not upheld or they felt sidelined, the country would not enjoy peace and stability in the long term," the writer wrote in his *Mingguan Malaysia* weekly column.

Awang Selamat is the pseudonym for the collective voice of Utusan Malaysia's editors, although the column is written as if it was the voice of one person.

Awang Selamat said this while commenting on a slew of affirmative economic measures, including cash aid, aimed at improving the lot of the Bumiputeras.

Awang Selamat also took a cue from Najib's call to government-linked companies (GLCs) to advertise more in the Umno-owned *Bahasa Malaysia* daily to ensure the newspaper's capability to compete in the long term.

In his column today Awang Selamat agreed wholeheartedly that many GLC leaders had forgotten their original objectives, which was to help the Bumiputera economy.

While opening the Malay-language daily's new headquarters, Najib said 75-year-old newspaper cannot rely solely on circulation to stay in business and that advertising is needed to keep it afloat.

The DAP condemned Najib's call saying it is another example of Putrajaya's waste of taxpayers' money and an attempt to bail out the paper.

Its national organising secretary Tony Pua (pic) said the Umno president's call showed that the paper had lost readers because of its racist stand.

He said the prime minister's call showed that the daily is no longer "commercially viable" and Najib was making a lame attempt to rescue the "racist and extremist mouthpiece".

"The blatant call by the prime minister himself for government agencies and companies to increase advertising in Utusan Malaysia is a poorly disguised bailout attempt using taxpayers' monies," Pua said in a statement yesterday - September 15, 2013.

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