

Najib To Tweet From Twitter HQ In San Francisco On Monday
Bernama
21 Sept, 2013
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SAN FRANCISCO, Sept 21 (Bernama) -- More than 1.7 million followers of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak's Twitter @NajibRazak will have a rare experience of reading his tweets which he will be tweeting from the Twitter Headquarters in San Francisco, California, on Monday.

Being an avid tweeter with 4,999 tweets and 1,745,037 followers to date, according to Twitter.Com's figures, Najib has been dubbed by many as among world leaders who is most active in tweeting.

"Foreign CEOs (chief executive officers) are very impressed with his knowledge in IT (Information Technology)...he even knows more about technical stuff than some of us.

"He impresses CEOs and big-time entrepreneurs in a big way," said a Malaysian official commenting on Najib's scheduled visit to Twitter on Monday, in conjunction with the prime minister's working visit to San Francisco and New York from Sept 22 to 29.

The foreign ministry in a statement Saturday, said Najib was scheduled to make a working visit to San Francisco for the Global Science and Innovation Advisory Council (GSIAC) annual meeting from Sept 22 to 24, following which the prime minister will lead the Malaysian delegation to the 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York from Sept 25 to 29.

According to the official, Najib will meet top officials of Twitter and tour its headquarters before leaving for The Fairmont San Francisco hotel here to witness the exchange of documents on collaboration between Malaysian companies and their counterparts in the United States.

During the San Francisco leg of his visit, Najib will chair the 3rd GSIAC meeting and officiate at the High Level Forum on Green Future and Green Energy, which will be participated by international and national council members who are global experts on science and innovation.

The GSIAC was initiated by the prime minister in 2010, as part of his ongoing efforts to transform Malaysia into a high-income economy through enhancing Malaysia's capabilities in science and innovation.

Najib will also attend the 7th BIO-International Advisory Panel (BIO-IAP) meeting and visit Silicon Valley, including touring the headquarters of Twitter and Google.

He will visit Google here on Tuesday and meet its top official, as well as eight Malaysians working at Google.

On the significance of his first visit to Silicon Valley as Malaysia's prime minister, the official said Najib would gain the experience of the Silicon Valley ecosystem which would help his government in the successful implementation of its transformation programmes.

"We want the prime minister to have the Silicon Valley experience as he needs to know how to use data and big data analytics strategies for specific people (in the transformation of the country)," he said.

He said Najib would be meeting big data entrepreneurs, such as Twitter and Google, and having serious discussions with them about big data and the future trends, which was important to drive the Digital Malaysia agenda promoted by the government.

"It is part of Malaysia's ETP and GTP (Economic Transformation Programmes and Government Transformation Programmes) as it will lead to change in the future, like in the field of education, where teaching materials can be provided online to students, right from pre-school level to the highest level for free.

"It's the continuation of the Digital Malaysia agenda and part of the digitalisation programme," the official added.

The prime minister's itinerary in San Francisco includes attending a dinner hosted by the Commonwealth Club of California and delivering a public lecture at the Intercontinental Mark Hopkins hotel.

The club is the US' oldest and largest public affairs forum which has played host to prominent world leaders like former US presidents Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton.

Najib will be accompanied by some cabinet ministers and senior government officials in San Francisco.

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