

**Sarawak may get their increase in oil royalties, says Najib**  
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The federal government is willing to negotiate with Sarawak on the state's request for higher oil and gas royalties, Datuk Seri Najib Razak said today.

Bernama reported the prime minister as saying that Putrajaya had no qualms considering the request in the interest of the state government.

"The federal government will give utmost consideration on this matter," he said at the Malaysia Gawai Dayak Open House 2014 at Dataran Kipas in Miri tonight.

Sarawak Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Abdul Taib Mahmud and Chief Minister Tan Sri Adenan Satem were present.

According to Bernama, Adenan raised the matter in his speech earlier.

The Sarawak State Assembly sitting in May, had approved a special motion to seek royalties from the state's oil and gas revenue to be increased from 5% to 20%.

Najib said the federal government's consideration was not only on the request for higher oil and gas royalties but also higher funds for the state, Bernama reported.

The prime minister said Sarawak had achieved three forms of successes since its independence through the formation of Malaysia over the last 50 years.

He cited them as developing a multi-racial society that featured the characteristics of harmony and social cohesion, political stability and continuous sustainable development.

"I always have a soft spot for Sarawak and I want Sarawak to continue to be progressive, developed and successful," Bernama quoted him as saying. – June 2, 2014.

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