

**Government Doesn't Want Controversy On TH-1MDB Deal Prolonged, Says Najib  
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KOTA BELUD, May 10 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said Sunday the government does not want the controversy surrounding the Lembaga Tabung Haji-1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) land deal to be prolonged.

He said the issue had been twisted to make the deal look as if Tabung Haji was using depositors' money to save 1MDB out of its financial woes.

"We do not want to continue with this controversy because it will take away a lot of our energy in terms of concentrating on some of the big programmes that we have in mind," he told reporters after launching the Kota Belud People's Housing Project (PPR).

He was asked to comment on Tabung Haji's announcement that it would sell off the land it purchased from 1MDB.

Najib said turning the land over to the private sector was a good commercial deal, which would see Tabung Haji made a few million ringgit overnight.

"So, it cannot be a bail out (for 1MDB). No private company will buy over a project if it the company is going to lose money," he said.

The pilgrimage fund chairman Datuk Seri Abdul Azeez Abdul Rahim said on Saturday that Tabung Haji planned to sell the 0.66-ha land in the Tun Razak Exchange (TRX), after receiving three offers from interested buyers.

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