

**PM To Announce Decision On RMAF Base Relocation - Reezal Merican
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KEPALA BATAS, July 4 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak will make an announcement on whether the federal government will relocate the Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) base in Butterworth, said Kepala Batas MP Datuk Seri Reezal Merican Naina Merican.

He said Penang UMNO leaders had a meeting with the prime minister yesterday and various issues were discussed with regard to the base.

"The prime minister let everyone express their views. No decision was reached but it will be duly announced by the prime minister," he told reporters after a Nuzul Al-Quran event at Masjid Al-Jamiul Badawi here last night.

Also present at the function were Penang Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Abdul Rahman Abbas and former prime minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

The relocation of the RMAF base had been objected to by several quarters, including the Penang Barisan Nasional which had urged the federal government to upgrade the base rather than relocate it to make way for other development by the private sector.

Teluk Air Tawar residents and certain non-governmental organisations in Penang had also protested against the proposal, claiming that the former would be forced to move out of the area which they had called home for decades.

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