

**Political Funds Received By Party Exclusive Right Of President, Treasurer – Najib Bernama**  
**Aug 16, 2015**

KEPALA BATAS, Aug 16 (Bernama) -- UMNO president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today said political funds received by the party were the exclusive right of the president and treasurer, and was not discussed openly.

He said matters related to political funding had never even been discussed in closed-door meetings of the party nor the UMNO supreme council.

"When I became deputy to Pak Lah (former prime minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi), I never questioned Pak Lah. I knew it was a matter for the party president (to take care of).

"As soon as the elections come there is enough money (to fund it), that's all we want to know...how the president got the fund, who donated it to him, is the president's prerogative. Why should it be questioned during my time as president of the party," he said.

Speaking at the opening of the Kepala Batas UMNO divisional delegates meeting here, the prime minister said he practiced the same principles as his predecessors.

"What I did was for the benefit of the party and not for personal gain... what I did wasn't against the country's laws," he said.

Najib said throughout the time as the deputy to Abdullah, he never questioned the former UMNO president on affairs which were known to be at the discretion of the party's leader.

The same was true for former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohammad, he said, adding that he had defended Dr Mahathir for 22 years as prime minister.

Responding to Dr Mahathir's statement that he only spent RM10 million for general elections, Najib said: "If you make a statement it must be reasonable, he only spent RM10 million.

"I have calculated that the deposits for parliamentary and state assembly seats itself needed a minimum expenditure of RM41 million... and this does not even include the billboards.

"If you want to criticise, there must be some basis, logic, (this) is not even rational," he said.

At the function, Najib also announced the approval of the construction projects for SMK Bertam Putra worth RM36 million, SK Bertam Putra (RM25 million) and for the widening of a two-lane road into four lanes from the Tuanku Abdul Rahman bridge to Jambatan Merdeka Seberang Perai Utara.

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