

Najib blames opposition for Umno leaders' insensitive remarks
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By Anisah Shukry

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak today admitted that Umno and Barisan Nasional (BN) leaders might have made inflammatory remarks in the past, but said that it was done in response to the insults issued by "the other side".

He vowed to deal with BN members through the law or party disciplinary channels, but urged the opposition to similarly tone down on their "insolence".

"Yes, I am aware that there may be statements made by certain individuals in BN, even in Umno itself, there may be statements made by some individuals," Najib said in his speech at the Gerakan annual national delegates' conference in Shah Alam today.

He said that the comments made did not reflect the party's leadership and that he still believed in the spirit of consensus in BN.

"If there are statements made by individuals, we will deal with it. And I think we should deal with it. Whether in terms of law enforcement or discipline within the party. But we hope that the other side is also not too insolent.

"Because for every action there will be a reaction... If you insult the leaders of this country, there will be a reaction. The best thing is don't insult the leadership."

Najib said BN's detractors should channel their unhappiness through the ballot box instead of being openly insulting and insolent.

"If you don't believe in BN, you have a chance every five years to decide. We believe in democracy, we believe in going back to the rakyat, and we will go back, in time.

"But do not insult the leaders of Malaysia. We must be a mature democracy. We must believe in good values that are associated with a mature democracy."

He was responding to Gerakan president Datuk Mah Siew Keong's statement earlier today that he was hurt by the inflammatory remarks made by BN leaders.

Mah proposed that a BN disciplinary committee be set up to punish members for issuing racist and insensitive statements.

Najib in his speech did not address Mah's proposal, although he assured that action would be taken against the individuals. – October 18, 2015.

Source:

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