

**Umno's Struggle also for Sabah and Sarawak – Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 10 (Bernama) -- UMNO's struggle is not confined to the peninsula, but also in Sabah and Sarawak through the assistance provided to the Barisan Nasional (BN) component parties.

Party president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak stressed on this matter in his policy speech at the opening of the UMNO General Assembly 2015 at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC), here, today.

"Recently, I had announced that more empowerment, which involves federal departments and agencies will be given to the Sabah and Sarawak state governments," he said.

Najib, who is also the prime minister, said in the 2016 Budget, the government had also stated its commitment to building the toll-free 1,796km Pan Borneo Highway covering both states.

For Sabah, Najib said under the leadership of UMNO and BN, they had continued to do all they could to defend the state from intruders.

"However, we much regret over certain individuals who were even willing to meet with parties who have been associated with the intrusion in Lahad Datu.

"This act was irresponsible. Indeed, it has caused hurt, and it can be regarded as an insult to the families and soldiers, as well as an open betrayal to the country," Najib said.

He said the government would continue to ensure security in Sabah, so that the state remained in Malaysia and would forever prosper.

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