

Siamese Community Leader Praises Najib's Leadership

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ALOR SETAR, Dec 11 (Bernama) -- A Siamese community leader today praised Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak's leadership and concern for the people, regardless of their race and religion, including the Siamese community.

Senator Datuk Boon Som Inong, who represents the Siamese community in the Dewan Negara, said Najib's leadership and concern had enabled the Siamese community to enjoy all the development and facilities, including the perks related to the recognition of their status as Bumiputera.

Boon Som said under Najib's leadership, the Siamese community members were able to register as members of UMNO, and qualified to invest in the Amanah Saham Nasional and Amanah Saham Bumiputera.

In fact, he said Siamese entrepreneurs were also able to take up loans from Mara, Perbadanan Usahawan Nasional Berhad and Bumiputera Agenda Steering Unit (Teraju) under the Prime Minister's Department.

"Najib has also proved that he is a leader who always uphold and fulfill his promise to the people, including the minorities," he said in a statement to Bernama today.

Boon Som said this in response to the prime minister's policy speech at the UMNO general assembly yesterday, which touched on the importance of cooperation among all Malaysians, including the Siamese community, in the creation of a prosperous and successful nation.

He said over the past five years, Siamese students had also been accepted into public universities, matriculation programmes and Mara Junior Science College, as well as enjoying the National Higher Education Fund Corporation loans, on their tickets as Bumiputera.

Through an allocation of RM500,000 in 2012 and RM600,000 in 2013, Najib had also fulfilled his promise to open a Siam School in Malaysia in Wat Siam, he said.

"We also hope the prime minister will help solve some other issues concerning the Siamese Community, such as admission to Universiti Teknologi Mara and registration of Bumiputera status for companies owned by Siamese traders and entrepreneurs," he added.

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