

Najib says government committed in fight against terror, extremism
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In the wake of recent concerns over terrorism threats in Malaysia, prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak vowed that Putrajaya will remain committed to fight any form of violence.

He also expressed his commitment to curb racial and religious extremism.

"Of late, we have been shaken with news of terror attacks in Jakarta, Istanbul and Paris, where the lives of innocent people were sacrificed.

"I wish to stress that Malaysia remains committed to fight any form of violence as well as racial and religious extremism.

"This is crucial to maintain peace, harmony and security in the country," he wrote on his Facebook page.

Earlier today, DAP parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang urged the prime minister and his Cabinet to give serious attention to a recent report titled: "Indonesian and Malaysian Support for The Islamic State", that a "genuinely" moderate Islamic agenda is the proper counter to thwart the Isis militant group.

The report, produced by the United States Agency for International Development, said Malaysia's counter-terrorism efforts had achieved some success but was curtailed by government support for conservative Islamic interests.

The report also noted that Putrajaya's right-wing bent, borne out of the need to arrest Umno's declining support, alienated an important Muslim population that could have helped in combating the militants' influence, Lim said.

"The report had said that Malaysia's 'moderate Islamic image' projected internationally is not reflected in domestic policy that is increasingly sectarian and hostile, not only to minority religious rights but also to progressive Muslim views," the Gelang Patah MP said. – January 17, 2016

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