

**Choose Candidates from BN to Continue Development Agendas in Sarawak – Najib
Bernama
May 2, 2016**

SARATOK, May 2 (Bernama) -- Voters in Sarawak must choose the right candidate as their respective state assemblyman from a party like Barisan Nasional which has the capability and capacity to support development agendas in the state said Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

The Prime Minister said voters must weigh the overall performance of a party's track record and strength to ensure the chosen candidate can continue development that is required in their respective constituencies.

Najib who is also the BN chairman stressed that the development agenda, economic progress and stability can only be brought about by a party that is strong and stable and not one that is weak and one that lacked stability.

"The strength of a party does not come from an individual but from the foundation of a party. My position as the BN chairman and Tok Nan (Chief Minister Tan Sri Adenan Satem) are strong and stable because of the party, not individual," he said.

When a party is strong, the administration is smooth and the government can carry out programmes that benefit the people effectively, he said when speaking to the people at Dataran Bandar Saratok, Betong, situated about 300km from Kuching.

Najib also urged the voters to pick a candidate who can listen to the pulse of the people and able to channel their demands to the party effectively.

"If BN is voted in the May 7 polls, it means the voters have chosen a government that has an agenda to carry out development agendas for the people. Do you (voters) wish to pick a party from the opposition that cannot even reach a consensus in deciding a seat allocation, let alone administer a state?" he said.

Najib said development programmes in Sarawak require at least 10 years to be carried out and that was the reason why the BN was seeking the mandate of the people.

"To plan and execute a development agenda requires time, it cannot be carried out in a year or two, but will take at least 10 years to complete. Therefore, if there is no mandate from the people, the development agenda will be hampered," he told a sea of people who had started gathering from early morning.

Najib who was accompanied by BN candidate for Kalaka, Datuk Wahab Abdul Aziz and BN candidate from Krian, Kilat Beriak, later visited business premises and food outlets and savoured some of the dishes with the people.

The Prime Minister also spent time for selfies and photographs with the people.

In KUCHING, the Prime Minister said Islam was a religion of peace and not a religion of cruelty.

"Islam also places importance as to the welfare of all people," said at the "Ziarah Solat Isyak" programme at Masjid Ikhwanul Islam in Samariang, Petra Jaya tonight.

Najib said in fact, the government's programmes to look after the B40 group (the 40 per cent of the population who come in the lower income bracket) and providing education was also a call of duty in Islam.

"In fact, the people of various races and religions living in harmony which is a mainstay in Sarawak is also in line with Maqasid Syariah (Islamic objectives)," he said.

At the event, Najib also asked Petra Jaya MP and Works Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof and the Barisan Nasional candidate for Samariang in Saturday's state election Sharifah Hasidah Sayeed Aman Ghazali to find a new site to build a bigger mosque for the constituency.

"I will give an allocation and I will also ask Tok Nan (Sarawak Chief Minister Tan Sri Adenan Satem) to also help," he added.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2016 BERNAMA

<http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v8/newsindex.php?id=1241317>