

**Mandate from the People of Sarawak Vital For Continued Development – Najib  
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SERIAN, April 28 (Bernama) -- Barisan Nasional need the mandate from the people of Sarawak in the state election to continue the development agenda that has yet to be completed said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

The Prime Minister said the development agenda cannot be completed in a short time as it needs strategic planning by the Federal and state governments.

"Therefore, it is important for the people of Sarawak to continue their support for BN in the state election, especially Chief Minister Tan Sri Adenan Satem. Give him the mandate to continue the development.

"Sarawak will 'sit at the same level or rise at the same level' with Peninsula Malaysia. I am therefore, committed to approve various allocations and mega development projects like the Pan Borneo Highway," he said after visiting Sekolah Kebangsaan St Jude Bunan, situated about 80km from Kuching, here Thursday.

Serian Member of Parliament Datuk Seri Richard Riot Jaem who is also the Human Resource Minister and BN candidate for Kedup, Martin Ben accompanied the Prime Minister during the visit. Najib said the government was committed to fulfill the development agendas that were pledged because such commitments from BN are not empty promises like that pledged by the opposition.

"Do not be influenced or convinced by promises made by the opposition. The people do not want empty promises. Promises must be fulfilled. Who can do it? asked the Prime Minister to an eager crowd who immediately replied 'BN' in a collective voice.

Najib also announced an allocation of RM1 million from the Federal government to the St Jude Church which is situated next to the school for a new building while the state government matched the allocation with another RM1 million.

"The RM2 million from the Federal and state governments shows the close relationship BN enjoys. I believe we are fair in the principle of religious freedom in the country.

"The BN government respects the religious sentiments of all races in the country," he said.

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