

**National Blueprint for Indian Community Will Be Launched In January - Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 16 (Bernama) -- The government will launch the National Blueprint for the Indian Community in January next year, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

Najib, who is also Barisan Nasional (BN) chairman, said a secretariat would be formed to ensure the blueprint was executed effectively.

"This blueprint will be a living document. It encompasses all. We will form a strong secretariat (for implementation). Before this there were hitches in implementation (of plans for the community) whereby decisions I made were not executed well down the line, there were setbacks.

"That is why we need a strong secretariat for proper follow through so that there is no interference in the decisions we make. I am disappointed that the decisions I made (for the community before this) were not fully implemented," he said.

Najib said this when opening MIC's 70th annual general meeting at the Putra World Trade Centre here today.

Present were MIC president Datuk Seri S Subramaniam, deputy president Datuk Seri S.K. Devamany, Malaysia's Special Envoy on Infrastructure to India and South Asia Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu, Dewan Negara president Datuk S.A Vigneswaran and Barisan Nasional Secretary-General Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor.

Najib said the development of the Indian community must start and proceed in detail and concerned matters such as the allocation for schools for the benefit of the community.

In this regard, the Prime Minister pointed out that under the blueprint, every National Type Tamil School (SJKT), including seven new SJKT expected to be ready next year would provide pre-school education.

"For example, the seven new schools which have been approved including one in Klang, when I checked, there was no pre-school education such as the child nursery (taska) provided in the SJKT. So, in the blueprint, every SJKT will have a child nursery.

"We must start from the bottom. We must inculcate them with strong foundation, with the right kind of values as Malaysian Indian society," he said.

With regard to human values, Najib said the policy of mutual respect must be preserved and no one should touch on the sensitivity of the other communities in this country.

"If we are united, we can deliver real change. We must be consistent on our stand and principles in the interest of the nation's future.

"I'm optimistic with the scenario in Malaysia. When something happens, we cannot put the blame on the government alone...for example the fuel price (rise) which is beyond our (government) control.

"But as the government, under such circumstances, we must be able to do the best and implement development programs. Hopefully, the 2017 Budget will please the people," he said.

The 70th MIC General Assembly held today was attended by 2,500 party delegates throughout the country with the theme 'Single Voice Common Goal' which among others carried the motion on education, jobs and health.

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