

**'I Won't Squander National Sovereignty to Lure Foreign Investment' - Najib
Bernama
Dec 3, 2016**

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 3 (Bernama) -- UMNO president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak stressed he will not ever pawn the national sovereignty to lure foreign investors and urge that it is not politicised.

Najib said his visit to China recently was merely to find new investments from the second biggest economy in the world and also in an effort to boost the national economy.

"When did I ever pawn Malaysian sovereignty? I am Prime Minister, I cannot surrender national sovereignty, President Xi JinPing knows and I will defend (national sovereignty).

"What is wrong with being on good terms with China? China likes us..one reason was Tun Razak forged the first political relations from this region with China in 1974," he said in his Presidential winding up speech at the end of the 2016 UMNO General Assembly, Saturday.

Najib said the effort to lure investment and National Transformation 2050 was among the endeavours to turn Malaysia into a first rate nation.

"We must have a target for Malaysia. We must at least be among the top 20 nations. Don't let others belittle Malaysia. Indeed, we can be a first rate nation," said Najib.

He also targeted the expansion of the national economy to RM2 trillion from the current RM1.3 trillion in the next seven years, aided by high impact projects such as the Mass Rapid Transit service and Pan-Borneo Highway.

"As head of government, I want this RM1.3 trillion expansion to RM2 trillion and if according to calculations of economic growth at the rate of five per cent a year, the target will be met in seven or eight years," he said.

Najib said the per kapita income and employment opportunities would also expand together with the economic growth.

"This is the strategy in making the Malay race competitive and global," stressed the Prime Minister.

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