

Najib calls for enhancing counter-terror cooperation with US
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Prime Minister Najib Razak says both US and Malaysia remain committed to fighting extremism and defeating the scourge of terrorism.

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia is looking forward to further enhance cooperation with the United States (US) in the fight against terrorism, to achieve the shared objectives of peace, security and stability for all, says Prime Minister Najib Razak.

He said, aside from sharing the interests and values, particularly important in these times, was that both countries shared the commitment to fight extremism and defeat the scourge of terrorism wherever it rears its head.

Noting that the US had made the fight against extremism as one of its top priorities, Najib said it would find no sturdier and more reliable ally in this campaign than Malaysia.

“While we have been fortunate enough never to have suffered the Islamic State (IS) or Al Qaeda-linked terrorist attacks that have killed so many in America, we are not immune.

“The first successful IS-linked attack took place just outside Kuala Lumpur in June 2016. Eight were injured and none were killed. But that was not for want of trying,” he said during his speech at The American Malaysian Chamber of Commerce dinner in conjunction with the US-Malaysia 60 years celebration here yesterday.

The dinner was also attended by his wife Rosmah Mansor, US Ambassador to Malaysia, Kamala Shirin Lakhdar Min, Women, Family and Community Development Minister Rohani Abdul Karim and International Trade and Industry Minister Mustapa Mohamed.

Najib said Malaysia’s security services had foiled many plots and deserved enormous praise for the tireless work although much of it went unsung, but that had kept the people safe and secure.

“Their methods, and our deradicalisation programmes which have been hugely productive in rehabilitating extremists, with an over 90% success rate, are models for countries around the world.

Najib also said Malaysia's commitment to moderation had also been recognised at the highest levels internationally, especially with the setting up of the Global Movement of Moderates Foundation, the Islamic concept of Wasatiyyah, and with the establishment of the King Salman Centre for International Peace here in Malaysia.

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