

Najib: Claims that govt neglects opposition states baseless
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Prime Minister says federal government allocates funds annually to all states, including those under opposition administration.

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Najib Razak today lamented that opposition political parties continue to hurl baseless allegations at the federal government, even accusing it of neglecting the opposition-held states of Kelantan, Penang and Selangor.

The government has repeatedly replied to their allegations, he said, calling on these parties to cease making unfounded allegations.

He said it was sad that opposition parties did not tell the truth, but accused the government of being tyrannical and neglecting opposition-held states.

Even a former menteri besar of Kedah wrongfully accused the federal government of neglecting that state, Najib added.

“The government is always concerned about Malaysians, regardless of whether they are in states administered by the opposition or the Barisan Nasional,” he said in an audio clip on his blog, www.najibrazak.com, providing an explanation to back his statement.

Najib said the federal government allocated funds annually to all states, including those under opposition administration.

He said funds were given as annual grants to local authorities, in accordance with the state’s total population for the maintenance of state roads, to meet shortfalls in the operating account, and other needs.

“In fact, these allocations are raised every year. In 2015, the total amount of funds given to various states was RM6.74 billion,” he said.

Najib said between 2011 and 2015, Kelantan was given RM1.94 billion, including RM378.85 million to meet a shortfall in the operating account.

During the same period, Penang received RM950.44 million and Selangor, RM3.63 billion which included a special annual grant of RM25.81 million, he said.

The prime minister said the funds did not include federal government projects valued at billions of ringgit in these states, such as for the construction of schools, hospitals, roads, affordable homes, people’s housing projects and police stations.

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