

## NEWS

# Najib: BN, Umno to remain sincere and cohesive

**KOTA BARU** — The spirit of struggle for the people, a strong and cohesive leadership loyal to the leader are key principles that determine the success of Umno and Barisan Nasional (BN), said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

He said on the contrary, a struggle based on revenge, disappointment and material values would surely have failed.

"If the struggle is based on the spirit of righteousness, to do what is best, then God willing, it will be thanks to our struggle," he told reporters after meeting the people and launching the People's Housing Project (PPR) in the Machang parliamentary constituency, at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Bandar Machang yesterday.

Najib, who is also Umno president, is hoping there will be a change in Kelantan in the 14th General Election as support for Umno and BN in the state has improved.

Among those present were International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamad and Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Minister Tan Sri Noh Omar.

On the PPR scheme, Najib said 418 units being built at a cost of RM75 million in Kampung Batu 25, was expected to be completed by early 2019.

He said the PPR, one of eight projects being completed or already completed in Kelantan, was part of his promise to the people of Machang a few years ago.

He said each PPR unit was sold at RM35,000, with subsidies ranging from RM80,000 to RM120,000 and above, borne by the government based on the



Najib at the launch of the PPR. On his left is Noh Omar and Mustapa. — Picture by Bernama

cost of construction and land price for a PPR.

"The federal government is doing the best for all the people of Kelantan. As prime minister I have never used the policy of punishing the people of Kelantan. If measured in terms of allocation I have given more than the

previous leader.

"Under the Eighth Malaysia Plan, the amount allocated to Kelantan was only RM3.7 billion, while in the 11th Malaysia Plan the allocation was RM12.87 billion, almost four times more," he said.

Among development projects

implemented by the federal government in Kelantan were the Kota Bharu-Kuala Krai Expressway, housing projects, hospital, new bridges as well as building and repairing mosques.

At the event, Najib also launched the Machang Umno division delegates conference. — Bernama.

## IN BRIEF

### Exco, two others remanded for five days

**GEORGE TOWN** — State executive councillor Phee Boon Poh and two others were ordered to be held under remand for five days to facilitate an on-going Malaysia Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) investigation into the legality of a factory in Bukit Mertajam. Phee, 66, who was clad in MACC prisoner garb was brought to court around 10am yesterday under close guard by the MACC officers. The two others, a 70-year-old manager and his 37-year-old son, also appeared before Assistant Registrar Ameerah Mastura Khamis. After lengthy arguments by defence counsels, she granted the MACC investigators a five-day remand. MACC had arrested Phee and the factory managers on Friday.

### Sabah Wildlife Dept seeks DNA samples

**KOTA KINABALU** — Authorities want samples from the eight tonnes of pangolin scales seized last month to conduct DNA tests to determine their origin. Sabah Wildlife Department director Augustine Tuuga said that while they knew about the seizure, they had no part in the investigations. "As such we do not know where the scales came from. We will not know unless there is DNA analysis," he told Malay Mail Online. He said that there was a possibility the scales came from Africa, as there was a similar seizure of pangolin scales and ivory tusks during the same period as at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA). experts say that the scales could have come from eight species.

### Prominent caterer Pak Engku dies

**SHAH ALAM** — The owner of Kuzie Katering, Datuk Raja Rosly Raja Mazlan, 57, popularly known as Pak Engku, passed away at Darul Ehsan Medical Centre on Friday night due to diabetes complications. His youngest son, Raja Muhammad Harith Irfan, 17, said his father breathed his last at 9.10pm. "He was admitted to the hospital on Thursday and underwent surgery," he told Bernama. Pak Engku leaves a wife, Datin Ramziah Samah, 47, and three children. His remains were taken to the state mosque here for the funeral prayers yesterday before being laid to rest at the Shah Alam Royal Mausoleum. Pak Engku, who was born in Kampung Batu Laut, Banting, Selangor, had served as a clerk at the Selangor State Executive Council office before venturing into the catering business.

### Kedah exco's son among two killed in car crash

**JITRA** — The son of Kedah executive councillor Datuk Aminuddin Omar was among two people killed when the car they were in skidded and crashed into a tree at Km12.7, Kampung Bendang Perang yesterday. State Fire and Rescue Department public relations officer Supt Mohamed Mustakim Mukhtar said the crash occurred about 4.30 pm when Wan Khuzairi Wan Chik, 27, who was at the wheel of a Toyota Hilux, lost control, causing the vehicle to skid and crash into a tree during a downpour. Wan Khuzairi and the passenger, Irfan Aminudin, 20, were pinned in their seats and died at the scene, he said in a statement. Firemen from the Bukit Kayu Hitam station took about 10 minutes to extricate the two victims from the mangled vehicle.