



Najib being interviewed over 988 FM yesterday

# No compromise on safety

**P**ETALING JAYA: The government will not allow the Lynas plant to operate if scientific evidence shows it will be harmful to human health and the environment, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak assured yesterday.

He said the government will not compromise on that issue as the safety of the people is the top priority.

"For those who are against Lynas, we need to have dialogues ... to know what are the scientific and technical arguments against Lynas," Najib said in an interview with 988 FM radio station yesterday.

"People need to show there is real evidence that this is going to affect health and safety, particularly of those living in that area.

"If there is serious evidence, we will not allow Lynas to operate," he said.

Najib stressed that the dialogue should not be based on emotion or political argument because there

**> Govt will not let Lynas operate if proven it will be harmful: Najib**

was a tendency for the Lynas issue to be used for political objectives.

"What has started as a purely environmental issue has become a political issue. This is unfortunate. We need to have this dialogue and engagement with the people before the government makes the final decision.

"But I can assure the people that the safety of Malaysian citizens will not be compromised."

Najib said the setting up of a Parliament Select Committee on Lynas is to look at options the government can take to address some of the concerns of the people.

On the shortage of Mandarin teachers in Chinese schools, he said Deputy Education Minister Datuk Wee Ka Siong had been tasked to come up with a proposal to overcome the problem and it has been

accepted in principle.

"Now, it is up to us to ensure there is effective implementation; we have to make sure this problem is overcome once and for all," he added.

He also pointed out the need for an efficient public transportation system to overcome traffic congestion in Kuala Lumpur which he said would only worsen.

He assured property owners along Jalan Sultan who are worried about the Sungai Buloh-Kajang My Rapid Transit (MRT) project that their shophouses will not be affected.

"We will do everything possible to preserve those shoplots.

We are even prepared to declare the shophouses as heritage buildings because it is also important for us to preserve our history and legacy," he added. - Bernama