

# Finding cause of floods

## Najib: Much speculation now, but wait for outcome of study

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Government will wait for the outcome of a study on the actual cause of the floods in Johor before coming to any conclusion.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said there was much speculation over the cause of the floods but the only known cause now was the unusually high rainfall in the state.

"A special technical committee has been set up to study the causes of the flood and we are getting experts to join it," he said after witnessing the handing-over of duties by outgoing Chief of Defence Forces Laksamana Tan Sri Mohd Anwar Mohd Nor to his successor Jen Tan Sri Abdul Aziz Zainal.

Najib was commenting on a report in a Malay daily on Wednesday quoting Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman as saying that the floods might have been caused by Singapore's land reclamation works on Pulau Tekong.

Najib, who is also Defence Minister, said Mohd Anwar had been appointed as chairman of the Armed Forces Fund Board.

He said the Government would also consider the proposal from

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DATUK SERI NAJIB TUN RAZAK

Mohd Anwar to have the service of senior officials extended to three years instead of just two years, as was the practice now.

On the delivery of the new generation naval patrol boats, Najib said the Government had paid shipbuilder BN Shipyard an additional RM500mil to complete construction of the remaining four boats.

Under the contract signed in September 1998, BN Shipyard was to design and build six patrol vessels for RM5.35bil for the Royal Malaysian Navy. It has delivered two vessels.



**Over to you:** Najib (centre) witnessing the symbolic handover of duties from Laksamana Mohd Anwar to Jen Abdul Aziz at the Defence Ministry in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.