

HUSSEIN: BN WON BECAUSE IT CARES

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. — Datuk Hussein Onn said today the Barisan Nasional success in the Bukit Raya by-election in Kedah was due to the sincerity of the Barisan, particularly Umno, in working for the interests of the common people.

Other than bringing progress, peace and prosperity to the people and country, the Barisan also made unceasing efforts to promote the cause of Islam in the country.

In the by-election, Barisan candidate Haji Safirol Haji Hashim beat his PAS rival Encik Fadzil Mohamed Noor by 69 votes.

Datuk Hussein said the Umno constitution expressly forbade the party to use religion for political pur-

poses as was being done by PAS.

He said PAS had for decades failed in its attempts to get the majority support of the people.

In ALOR STAR, Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Nahar Shahabuddin said today the defeat of PAS meant the end of the party in Kedah.

He said Bukit Raya was one of the major strongholds of PAS and with the defeat the party would eventually lose its influence in the State.

Datuk Seri Syed Nahar, who is also the Kedah Barisan Nasional chairman, said the narrow 69-vote victory was not surprising because PAS had been controlling Bukit Raya for the past 11 years.