

'Berjaya pullout won't affect showing'

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KUALA LUMPUR,
Mon. — Berjaya's pullout from the Barisan Nasional would not affect the coalition's performance in the general election, **Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad** said today.

Berjaya yesterday quit the Barisan Nasional after rejecting the coalition's decision to allocate it one parliamentary seat to contest.

"Berjaya was free to pull out from the coalition," the Prime Minister said.

He said the seat originally meant for Berjaya to contest would now be given to either the Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) or the Unit-

BERJAYA MINISTERS

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ed Sabah National Organisation (Usno), the remaining Barisan partners in Sabah.

The allocation of seats among component parties was "practically settled," he added.

Dr Mahathir said the allocation was based on "fairness and a desire to work together in the spirit of the Barisan Nasional and Malaysian inter-racial harmony".

In Kota Kinabalu, Berjaya information chief **Saidi Lampoh** said today the Berjaya Supreme Council was expected to meet in the State capital either tomorrow or on Wednesday to decide on the fielding of candidates for the election.

Should the meeting decide to contest, candidates would only be fielded in "safe" constituencies. He declined to name the seats concerned.

He said no agenda had been prepared for the meeting as it would be a brain storming session on the election.