

Be wary of PAS and DAP pledges: Mahathir

BACHOK, Thurs. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad reminded the people today to be wary of the opposition which makes all sorts of promises knowing very well they cannot rule the country.

Opening the Bachok Umno division office in Jelawat here, the Prime Minister said the Barisan Nasional (BN), on the other hand, only made promises it could keep.

It was easy for the opposition to make all kinds of promises because it knew it could not take over the country and therefore have to honour the promises, he said.

"Although the Alliance and, later, the BN, did not make many promises for the past 30 years when it was at the helm of the country, the people themselves can judge what facilities it has provided for them," he said.

"The BN is also sincere in fulfilling its promises and does not make empty promises during an election."

The Prime Minister also said there might not even be a general election if the opposition were to rule the country.

On PAS, he said it was not proper for the party to ask for money from the people whom it categorised as poor when, at the same time, it claimed it was fighting poverty.

"PAS has taken the money of the poor purportedly for its *jihad* fund but until today we do not know what it is crusading for," he said.

Some 3,000 people attended the function including Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Haji Mohamed Yaacob.

Earlier, in Kota Baru, Dr Mahathir assured the Chinese community in Kelantan that the Government will give due consideration to their land ownership problems.

The Prime Minister gave an undertaking that the problems would be overcome after he discussed the matter with the State Government.

Speaking at a meeting with the Chinese community at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce hall here, he said Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba who visited the State on Tuesday had also promised to look into the matter.

He also said the BN would fulfil its promises unlike PAS "which fished for votes from the Chinese and Indians with empty promises."

He hoped the Chinese and Indian communities would not fall for the empty promises.

There might not be stability in the country if PAS came to power, he warned, reminding that without stability, all activities in the country, including business, would be affected.