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BARISAN-MEETING
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, APRIL 1⁸⁷ (BERNAMA) -- ALL FOUR SARAWAK BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENT PARTIES WILL USE THE BN SYMBOL OF THE +DACING+ (SCALES) IN THE COMING STATE ELECTION. (P)

BN CHAIRMAN DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THEY HAD ALSO AGREED TO THE SEAT ALLOCATION BEING BASED ON THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS IN THE STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY BEFORE ITS DISSOLUTION.

THE PRIME MINISTER TOLD REPORTERS THIS AFTER CHAIRING THE BN SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING AT UMNO HEADQUARTERS HERE THIS EVENING.

THE 48-MEMBER STATE ASSEMBLY WAS ANNOUNCED DISSOLVED ON MARCH 12 TO PAVE THE WAY FOR STATE ELECTION CALLED BY SARAWAK CHIEF MINISTER DATUK PATINGGI TAIB MAHMUD FOLLOWING AN ATTEMPT BY A GROUP OF DISSIDENT BN STATE ASSEMBLYMEN TO TOPPLE HIM.

NOMINATIONS WILL BE ON APRIL 6 AND POLLING, APRIL 15 AND 16.

THE PRE-DISSOLUTION STATE OF THE PARTIES IN THE ASSEMBLY: PARTI PESAKA BUMIPUTERA BERSATU (PBB) 16 SEATS; SARAWAK UNITED PEOPLE'S PARTY (SUPP) 12; SARAWAK NATIONAL PARTY (SNAP) SEVEN AND PARTI BANSA DAYAK SARAWAK (PBDS) EIGHT. THE REST ARE INDEPENDENT STATE ASSEMBLYMEN.

IN THE LAST STATE ELECTION IN DECEMBER 1983, PBB WAS ALLOCATED 20 SEATS TO CONTEST AND SUPP 12 WITH THE BALANCE CONTESTED BETWEEN SNAP AND PBDS.

PBDS WHICH WAS A BREAKAWAY FACTION OF SNAP WAS NOT IN THE BN AT THAT TIME. -- MORE
2105MST 01 04 87

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BARISAN-MEETING 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE MEETING DID NOT DISCUSS THE REPORT THAT PBDS WOULD COOPERATE WITH THE NEWLY-FORMED PERSATUAN RAKYAT MALAYSIA SARAWAK (PERMAS) OPPOSING DATUK PATINGGI TAIB.

THIS WAS NOT DISCUSSED BECAUSE THE MEETING FOCUSED ON ONLY BN'S PREPARATIONS IN FACING THE SARAWAK STATE ELECTION, HE ADDED.

HE SAID ANY OBJECTION IN RELATION TO THE MATTER COULD BE BROUGHT UP AT THE NEXT MEETING.

ASKED THE ACTION TO BE TAKEN IF PBDS FIELDED INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES AGAINST BN CANDIDATES, HE SAID HE DID NOT WANT TO THINK ABOUT SOMETHING THAT HAD NOT HAPPENED.

HOWEVER, IF THIS TOOK PLACE, IT WOULD BE DISCUSSED AFTER THE ELECTION.

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BARISAN-MEETING 3 KUALA LUMPUR

QUERIED WHETHER SARAWAK BN CHAIRMAN AND PBB PRESIDENT DATUK PATINGGI TAIB HAD SUBMITTED A MOTION FOR PBDS'S EXPULSION FROM BN, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID NO SUCH RESOLUTION WAS BROUGHT UP.

THE MEETING ONLY HEARD INFORMATION ON THE MATTER FROM ALL QUARTERS INVOLVED.

HE SAID THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOUR SARAWAK BN COMPONENT PARTIES LEFT THE ROOM WHEN THE MEETING DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF SEAT DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF THE SYMBOL.

ON THE BN MANIFESTO FOR THE STATE ELECTION, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE FOUR WOULD USE THE SAME MANIFESTO.

HE BELIEVED BN WOULD WIN THE ELECTION AND BE RETURNED TO POWER IN THE STATE. -- MORE
2054MST 01 04 87

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BARISAN-MEETING 4 KUALA LUMPUR

THE MEETING ALSO DID NOT DISCUSS THE RESIGNATION OF FORMER MCA PRESIDENT TAN KOON SWAN AS GOPENG MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND THE CHOICE OF THE COMPONENT PARTY TO CONTEST IN THE BY-ELECTION EXPECTED THERE.

ON WHETHER OTHER BN COMPONENT PARTIES APART FROM MCA HAD ASKED TO CONTEST FOR THE SEAT, HE SAID ANYONE HAD THE RIGHT TO MAKE A REQUEST.

THE USUKAN STATE AND LIMBAWANG PARLIAMENTARY BY-ELECTIONS IN SABAH WERE NOT DISCUSSED.

ASKED TO COMMENT ON A REPORT SAYING THE RULING PARTI BERSATU SABAH (PBS) WOULD NOT SUPPORT THE BN CANDIDATE IN LIMBAWANG IF HE WAS USNO PRESIDENT TUN DATU MUSTAPHA HARUN, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THIS PROBLEM COULD BE SETTLED.

HE SAID SUCH SITUATIONS WERE COMMON IN SABAH AND HE WAS CONFIDENT IT COULD BE RESOLVED. -- MORE
2133MST 01 04 87

B E492 AAE
BARISAN-MEETING 5 KUALA LUMPUR

ASKED WHETHER THE MEETING LASTING NEARLY TWO-AND-A-HALF HOURS DISCUSSED OTHER TOPICS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IT GAVE ALL THOSE PRESENT THE OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE ANY POINT.

THE MEETING ENSURED DECISIONS WERE MADE WITH GREAT CARE AND NO ONE WAS THEREFORE PREVENTED FROM SPEAKING, HE ADDED.

ON THE ANTICIPATED CONTESTING OF ALL POSTS IN THE UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL ELECTIONS AT THE PARTY GENERAL ASSEMBLY LATER THIS MONTH, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WHO IS UMNO PRESIDENT SAID THIS WAS NORMAL IN A COUNTRY PRACTISING DEMOCRACY.

THE MEETING WHICH STARTED AT 4PM WAS ATTENDED BY BN COMPONENT PARTIES REPRESENTATIVES INCLUDING DATUK LEO MOGGIE (PBDS), DATUK DR LING LIONG SIK (MCA), DATUK S. SAMY VELLU (MIC), DATUK DR LIM KHENG YAIK (GERAKAN), ENCIK KABITAH GADAM (PBS), DATUK AMAR STEPHEN YONG (SUPP) AND DATUK PATINGGI TAIB MAHMUD (PBB). -- BERNAMA
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