

Mahathir: It is a State matter

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KEPALA BATAS, Sat. — Sabah is free to dissolve its Legislative Assembly any time it wishes, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, said today.

"The Sabah Government has the power to do so. This is a State matter. There is no law stating the Sabah State elections must be held at the same time as

that in the peninsula.

State elections for Sabah and Sarawak were decided by the respective States due to certain problems and conditions there, he added.

"Whether PBS or Usno wins does not matter. The BN still wins as both are component parties."

PBS and Usno could also

decide whether to use the BN symbol for the elections, the Prime Minister said.

"I heard they wanted to use their own symbols, but later they wanted to use the BN symbol. In the BN we are flexible."

In Kuala Lumpur, a spokesman for the Election Commission said it would

meet soon to set the nomination and polling dates for the Sabah State election.

The commission would however wait for an official letter from the secretary of the State Legislative Assembly on the dissolution.

The commission was ready to face both the State and General Election, the spokesman added.