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R E610 AAE  
MAHATHIR - DAP  
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, OCT 12 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY ADVISED DAP SECRETARY-GENERAL ENCIK LIM KIT SIANG TO WITHDRAW FROM CHALLENGING PULAU PINANG CHIEF MINISTER DR LIM CHONG EU FOR THE PADANG KOTA STATE SEAT IN THE OCT 21 GENERAL ELECTION.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID ENCIK LIM'S ATTITUDE IRKED THE PEOPLE OF PULAU PINANG BECAUSE THE DECISION WAS MADE WITHOUT TAKING THEIR VIEWS INTO CONSIDERATION.

THE DAP MOVE WOULD FORCE THE PEOPLE OF PULAU PINANG TO MAKE A CHOICE BETWEEN DR LIM AND ENCIK LIM, HE ADDED WHEN UNVEILING THE BN MANIFESTO HERE.

+THE PEOPLE ELECTED HIM BEFORE BECAUSE THEY WANTED TO GIVE THE OPPOSITION A CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, BUT NOW HE IS HURTING THEM BY CONTESTING AGAINST DR LIM,+ HE SAID.

ENCIK LIM WAS FORCING THE PEOPLE OF PULAU PINANG TO MAKE A CHOICE WHICH THEY DID NOT LIKE TO MAKE WITHOUT EVEN CONSIDERING THEIR VIEWS, HE ADDED. -- MORE  
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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT OPPOSITION CLAIMS THAT DR LIM WAS A RELUCTANT CANDIDATE ONLY REFLECTED THEIR IGNORANCE ABOUT THE CHIEF MINISTER.

DR LIM WOULD NOT DO ANYTHING HE DID NOT LIKE AND, LIKEWISE, HE WOULD DO ANYTHING IF HE WANTED TO DO IT, HE ADDED.

HOWEVER, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID, THE BN WELCOMED OPPOSITION IN THE ELECTION.

IN A CONTEST, THE PEOPLE WOULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SELECT THE CANDIDATES THEY THOUGHT WERE SUITABLE TO FORM THE GOVERNMENT.

+WITHOUT A CONTEST THE PEOPLE WOULD LOSE THEIR RIGHTS,+ HE SAID.  
-- BERNAMA  
1345MST 12 10 90