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FOCUS - KUBANG PASU
BM

ALOR SETAR, OCT 14 (BERNAMA) -- PRESIDENT OF THE PARTI HIZBUL MUSLIMIN (HAMIM) DATUK HAJI SUDIN WAHAB, WHO IS FACING PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD IN THE KUBANG PASU PARLIAMENTARY SEAT, IS UNLIKELY TO WIN NOT ONLY BECAUSE HE IS FACING THE STRONGEST MAN IN MALAYSIAN POLITICS BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF HIS OWN WAVERING STAND, ACCORDING TO POLITICAL OBSERVERS.

DATUK SUDIN WAS ONLY DAY DREAMING IF HE THOUGH THAT HE COULD WIN IN KUBANG PASU, THE OBSERVERS SAID.

+DON'T TALK ABOUT WINNING, THE CHANCES OF HIM GETTING BACK HIS \$5,000 DEPOSIT ALSO APPEAR TO BE NIL,+ SAID A RESIDENT OF JITRA -- A RAPIDLY DEVELOPING TOWNSHIP IN THE PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY LONG REPRESENTED BY DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD.

SOME ARE OF THE VIEW THAT DATUK SUDIN'S CANDIDACY THERE WAS MORE INTENDED TO +PROLONG THE LIFE OF HAMIM+

-- A PARTY FORMED BY FORMER PAS PRESIDENT DATUK ASRI MUDA WHO HAD SINCE JOINED UMNO.

POLITICAL ANALYSTS ALSO SAID THAT DATUK SUDIN'S INTEGRITY WAS TARNISHED AFTER HE HAD AGREED TO CONTEST UNDER THE BANNER OF PARTI SEMANGAT 46. -- MORE

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+IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE POLITICS OF CONFUSION MENTIONED BY DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR IS LEVELLED AT DATUK SUDIN,+ SAID THE OBSERVERS POINTING TO HIS PREVIOUS CONNECTION WITH PAS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR NEED NOT NECESSARILY PIN HIS HOPES ON THE SHORTCOMINGS IN DATUK SUDIN TO WIN IN KUBANG PASU.

+HIS STATURE AS A GREAT NATIONAL LEADER AND RENOWNED INTERNATIONAL STATESMAN ARE ENOUGH TO DEFEAT HIS OPPONENT,+ THE OBSERVERS SAID.

MOREOVER THE RESIDENTS OF KUBANG PASU HAD NEVER BEEN NEGLECTED BY THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE DESPITE DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR'S HEAVY SCHEDULE AS THE COUNTRY'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

THE PRIME MINISTER HAD ALWAYS MADE IT A POINT TO VISIT HIS CONSTITUENCY AS OFTEN AS HE COULD, THEY SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WAS ASSURED OF A LANDSLIDE VICTORY, THE OBSERVERS SAID. -- BERNAMA

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