

## Dr M: We cannot put off election in Sabah

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is confident that the parliamentary election in Sabah will be conducted smoothly despite Parti Bersatu Sabah's pullout from the Barisan Nasional.

The Prime Minister said the security forces were on standby and there was no cause for alarm over the security situation in the state.

Asked if the PBS move would threaten security, he said the matter did not arise, and the general election would proceed.

"There is no way the election in Sabah will be postponed. We will not postpone it. We want to maintain security and the election can be held, God willing," Dr Mahathir said after chairing an Umno supreme council meeting last night.

Usno president Tun Datu Mustapha Harun had suggested that the parliamentary election in the state be postponed.

Meanwhile, Education Minister Anwar Ibrahim said Sabah did not need a full-fledged university as demanded by the PBS.

"I told (Chief Minister Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan) a number of times and he agreed," he told reporters at Kampung Kerinchi here where he gave a ceramah last night.

"He only asked that the initial grant for a branch campus of Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia be approved.

"I have cleared that with the Cabinet and have told him," Encik Anwar added.