

R E142 AAE
MAHATHIR-CHONG EU
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, OCT 22 (BERNAMA) -- THE SELECTION OF THE CHIEF MINISTER OF PULAU PINANG WILL BE MADE THROUGH NEGOTIATION, IN THE STYLE OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

+THE BN-STYLE, WE SIT DOWN AND NEGOTIATE. I THINK THERE WILL NOT BE MUCH OF A PROBLEM, AND WE WILL CONSIDER WHO THE ELIGIBLE PERSON IS,+ HE TOLD REPORTERS AT THE PUTRA WORLD TRADE CENTRE HERE.

+WE ARE ALL GENTLEMEN, AND WILL KEEP TO THE ARRANGEMENT ALREADY MADE,+ HE ADDED.

HE CONFIRMED THAT THE GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE CHIEF MINISTER THAT WAS MADE WITH THE GERAKAN DURING THE 1986 GENERAL ELECTION WOULD BE RETAINED.

HOWEVER, THE FINAL DECISION HAD NOT BEEN MADE YET AND THERE HAD TO BE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GERAKAN FIRST. -- MORE
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CHIEF MINISTER DR LIM CHONG EU LOST TO DAP SECRETARY-GENERAL LIM KIT SIANG IN THE CONTEST FOR THE PADANG KOTA STATE SEAT.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID DR LIM'S DEFEAT WAS MOST SADDENING BECAUSE HE WAS THE ONE WHO HAD BROUGHT DEVELOPMENT TO PULAU PINANG.

+I AM VERY SAD ... ACTUALLY, A PERSON AS OLD AS HIM AND WHO HAS SERVED FOR 28 YEARS SHOULD HAVE BEEN ELECTED,+ HE SAID, ADDING THAT THE DECISION WAS THAT OF THE PEOPLE OF PULAU PINANG AND THERE WAS NOTHING THE BN COULD DO. -- BERNAMA
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