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Mahathir-BN

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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 1, (Bernama) -- (P) The Barisan Nasional (BN) is conducting a study on how its 10 component parties fared in the recent general election, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, said today.

The BN chairman said the study would assess the contributions of each component in the BN election success.

+All parties in the BN must contribute to the BN victory. It is not enough if they are merely in the BN to ride on the Umno votes,+ he told a press conference at the end of the second day of the Umno general assembly here.

The Umno President, however, stressed that Umno was not greedy in taking up ministerial or deputy minister's posts because it held to the principle of accommodating the other component parties.

+We will accommodate all groups but those who are given positions must also play an important role in the BN,+ he said.

The Prime Minister was responding to questions on the position of the two Deputy Minister posts allocated to MIC, which were still vacant.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said he had not made a decision on the matter.

On the study on the component parties' contributions, he said the new vote-counting system, where the votes were counted at the polling stations, would facilitate the study. -- more

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Although the BN would not be able to determine how each individual voted, it could give a clear picture of which groups voted for the ruling coalition.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the standard of the debate at the Umno general assembly was good and the assembly was conducted in a calm manner.

The delegates displayed a sense of responsibility and maturity even during the tabling of the resolution on the monarchy and Constitution.

The proposer of the resolution read from a prepared text so as not to rouse any ill-feelings or risk flouting the law.

He also expressed satisfaction with the points raised by the delegates which clearly reflected their rejection of methods which could undermine the party.

For instance, the delegates did not wish Ministers to abuse their positions for personal interests but rather to always place party interest first, he said.

He cited an instance where a Youth leader attempted to use the movement solely to serve his aspirations to become head of the movement. -- Bernama

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