

CNS9621

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Mahathir - Prai

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KUALA LUMPUR, July 28 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has suggested that the DAP drop its +Tanjung Tiga+ plan to capture Pulau Pinang in the next general election following its defeat in the just-concluded Prai by-election.

He said the victory of the Barisan Nasional (BN) in the state by-election yesterday showed that the people were fed up with the propaganda of the opposition party.

Describing the DAP as the boy who cried +Wolf!+, he said the people no longer believed in the party because it continued to harp on old issues such as corruption.

The DAP secretary-general, Encik Lim Kit Siang, could once again +bersandiwara+ (play-act) that he wanted to resign, he told reporters after opening the MCA general assembly here today.

In the by-election, BN's Encik V. Muthusamy polled 5,182 votes to defeat DAP vice-chairman Encik Karpal Singh to wrest the seat from the opposition party by a majority of 862 votes. -- more

♥28/07/16-55MST

CNS9622

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Mahathir - Prai 2 Kuala Lumpur

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir, who is BN chairman, said Encik Lim, the Opposition Leader, should resign as he had all the while talked about being morally responsible.

+So, it's time for play-acting again. He resigns, his supporters will appeal to him and he comes back.

+He's just pretending. So, we will see this +sandiwara+ again. It's a form of entertainment too, entertainment for the people,+ he said.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said that initially the BN expected to win the by-election by only about 600 votes but the 800-plus majority was something to be proud of.

On the DAP's +Tanjung Tiga+ plan, he said the people never accepted it even if it were to be put forward 10 times. -- more

♥28/07/16-56MST

CNS9635

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Mahathir - Prai 3 Kuala Lumpur

He said the party claimed to be the champion of landowners when it voiced opposition to land acquisition but, in doing so, forgot about the landless.

+If we acquire land, there's a reason for it, not just for the sake of acquiring it. The BN government is not blind.

+We have to develop our country. We cannot develop the country if we do not have the power to acquire land,+ he said.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the amendments to the National Land Code were merely to make the law clearer so that there would not arise the possibility of the government being taken to court.

+Actually, there's no difference in the situation now and then. The amendments do not allow the government to do more than it could in the past. They merely gave the legal basis to what is being done,+ he said, adding that they allowed for smooth land administration. -- more

28/07/17-36MST

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Mahathir - Prai 4 Kuala Lumpur

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir also said that the BN Supreme Council meeting tomorrow would, among other things, consider applications to join the BN from the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) from Sabah, Permas from Sarawak and a newly-formed Malay party from Terengganu.

He said all BN component parties must agree before the parties can be accepted as members of the coalition.

Asked whether the meeting would also discuss the date for the Sarawak state election, he said that would be up to the Sarawak government and parties in the state concerned. -- more

♥28/07/17-41MST

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Mahathir - Prai 5 Kuala Lumpur

In PULAU PINANG, Encik Lim Kit Siang attributed the party's defeat to reduced votes it received in Chai Leng Park.

In the last general election, it polled 2,164 votes compared to 986 by the BN in the area, he said in a statement.

The 1,178 vote difference was sufficient for the party to win the seat then with a majority of 355 votes, he said.

But in yesterday's by-election, he said, the difference was reduced to only 428 votes when the BN polled 1,222 while the party obtained 1,650 votes.

However, Encik Lim did not give any reason for the decrease in votes the party received in the housing estate. -- more

♥28/07/18-43MST

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Mahathir - Prai 6 Kuala Lumpur

In BUTTERWORTH, MIC President Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu said the BN's victory showed that the people no longer believed in the promises made and lies spread by the DAP.

Addressing the Indian community at Dewan Persatuan India last night, he said a study conducted by the BN showed that the victory was a result of people's sincere desire for wanting development, not money as alleged by the DAP.

He said the DAP should accept its defeat and not make excuses.

In KUALA LUMPUR, MCA President Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik also said that the victory was a turning point in the people's rejection of the DAP.

The people were fed up with the DAP for continuously criticising the government, he said.

The party criticised the government when the country's economy was in bad shape and now, when it had improved, it still criticised the government, he said. -- more

♥28/07/18-46MST

U PE 28-07 00140 EA019

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Mahathir - Prai 7 Kuala Lumpur

In ALOR SETAR, Kedah Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Osman Aroff congratulated the Pulau Pinang BN for the victory.

He said it was an excellent performance of the BN in regaining the seat from the DAP.

In IPOH, Perak Menteri Besar Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib congratulated Pulau Pinang Chief Minister Dr Koh Tsu Koon and the BN machinery for winning the seat.

He said the victory showed declining influence of the DAP among the people as they started to accept BN policies.

In SEREMBAN, Negeri Sembilan Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Mohamad Isa Abdul Samad said the BN's victory was expected as the people in the area were now more matured and had greater confidence in the BN. -- more

♥28/07/18-48MST

CNS9669

U PE 28-07 00154 EA020

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Mahathir - Prai 8 Kuala Lumpur

In MELAKA, Chief Minister Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik said the BN's success in wresting the seat from the DAP showed that the people rejected the +dirty politics+ of the opposition party.

+I urge the DAP to change its policy and be more Malaysian in nature,+ he said.

He said the DAP should join others in ensuring the success of the National Development Policy, the Sixth Malaysia Plan and vision to make Malaysia a developed country by the year 2020.

In JOHOR BAHRU, Menteri Besar Johor Tan Sri Haji Muhyiddin Yassin said DAP's defeat showed declining support for the party among the people.

It also reflected the people's confidence in the state government under the leadership of Chief Minister Dr Koh Tsu Koon and his deputy Dr Ibrahim Saad, he added. -- Bernama

♥28/07/18-50MST