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PBDS AT LOSING END IF IT WORKS WITH DAP: PM

Mahathir - PBDS

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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 15, (Bernama) -- Parti Bansa Dayak Sarawak (PBDS) will gain nothing if it is true that it is collaborating with the Democratic Action Party (DAP) in the Sarawak state election, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The Prime Minister said he hoped that there was no such cooperation because the PBDS was a component of the Barisan Nasional (BN) at federal level. The PBDS is in the opposition in the state.

+Should the PBDS ever decide on an electoral pact, it should be with the Barisan Nasional and not with the DAP,+ he told reporters after flagging of participants of the +Kampungku+ Run and taking part in the +Exerobics+ at Merdeka Square, here. The events were organised by the Information Ministry and the Selangor and Federal Territory Executives Club.

Immediately after nominations closed yesterday for the Sarawak state election on Sept 27-28, Chief Minister Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud said there were signs of a pact among the opposition parties to split the votes and topple the BN government.

He had claimed that the PBDS and the DAP had denied forging an electoral pact for fear of losing their supporters. -- more

♥15/09/12-02MST

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Mahathir - PBDS 2 Kuala Lumpur

On the +Exerobics+, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the exercise should be held in every ministry and that a study would be made on its implementation.

He said about 10 minutes could be allocated for the exercise which he added could help participants upgrade mental and physical fitness and enhance productivity.

The exercise could be held everywhere, in towns or villages, and in government offices or private firms, he said.

+Malaysians who are mentally and physically weak will be unable to work hard to achieve progress, including meeting the objectives of Vision 2020 (of making Malaysia a developed nation in 30 years),+ he said.

The +Kampungku+ Run and +Exerobics+ were held to coincide with the anniversary of the formation of Malaysia on Sept 16.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said many people only knew the independence date of Aug 31, 1957 and not Malaysia Day of Sept 16, 1963. -- more

♥15/09/12-16MST

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Mahathir - PBDS 3 Kuala Lumpur

Therefore, he said, several events would be held annually to mark Malaysia Day.

However, Sept 16 would not be declared a public holiday because Malaysia already had too many public holidays, he added.

+Too much rest is not good and can jeopardise efforts to achieve national development objectives,+ he said.

On his visit to Mexico beginning tomorrow, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said it was to forge closer relations because Mexico was Malaysia's third leading trading partner in Latin America after Brazil and Argentina.

The Prime Minister will be in Mexico until Sept 22 after which he will attend the United Nations General Assembly in New York on Sept 24. -- more

♥15/09/12-36MST

CNS4133

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Mahathir - PBDS 4 (last) Kuala Lumpur

Replying to a question, he said he would not raise the issue of the environment at the UN general assembly but would explain Malaysia's stand on a number of issues.

About 2,000 people joined the Prime Minister in the +Exerobics+ for about 30 minutes, led by Siti Norzehan Mohd Ali, physical fitness instructor with the Information Ministry.

Other participants included Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat, Deputy Information Minister Encik Railey Haji Jeffrey and Deputy National Unity and Social Development Minister Datuk Alex Lee.

About 5,000 people took part in the +Kampungku+ Run over 10 kilometres, which was divided into six categories. Encik Railey gave away the prizes.

Datuk Mohamed expressed satisfaction with the response to the run and exercise.

He said many other events, including physical fitness competitions, would be held to mark Malaysia Day next year. -- Bernama

♥15/09/12-51MST