

PM: Voter registration is effective

10 DEC 1992

THE current voter registration campaign carried out by the Election Commission is effective and has increased the number of Malaysians who have registered as voters, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad told the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

He said the Election Commission was still studying a proposal that voter registration be carried out throughout the year.

Dr Mahathir, who is also Home Minister, said the names and identity card numbers of 8,756 voters appeared more than once in the electoral rolls during the 1990 general election.

The breakdown of repetitive registration according to states is as follows: Selangor (1,630), Sabah (1,570), Johor 1,006, Kuala Lumpur (854), Perak (635), Kedah (516), Pahang (425), Kelantan (382), Penang (376), Terengganu (307), Negri Sembilan (287), Malacca (247), Sarawak (152), Perlis (120) and Labuan (51).

Replying to Kerk Kim Hock



DR MAHATHIR
... more names on rolls

(DAP-Pasir Pinji), Dr Mahathir said the Election Commission could detect voters whose names and IC numbers appeared more than once in the electoral rolls.

However, he said, since registration and the checking of the electoral rolls was done every year, the repeated registrations appeared in the rolls because voters who changed their addresses still registered themselves

as new voters.

He said these repetitions could not be checked in 1990 because the electoral rolls had to be prepared as soon as possible for the general election.

The problem, however, has been overcome.

On voters who had died, he said the Election Commission always checked the death list at the National Registration Department in its effort to cancel the names of deceased voters.

To a supplementary question by Wan Hanafiah Wan Mat Saman (BN-Kota Setar), Dr Mahathir said he was aware there were voters who deliberately registered in two areas.

To another question by Wan Mohamad Jamin Mahmood (Pas-Tumpat), he said automatic voting eligibility as soon as one reached 21 years of age would not solve the problem of voters who registered more than once.

The Election Commission is trying to come up with a new registration system to avoid the problem.