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Mahathir-election

GENERAL ELECTION IN 'TWO TO THREE MONTHS' TIME?

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ALOR SETAR, Aug 13 (Bernama) -- The Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today reminded PAS and Semangat 46 to be ready for a general election which may be called soon.

"Tell the PAS people, get ready. We may hold an election in two or three months' time... (pause) a general election. We want to hear what the PAS people will promise," he said when addressing a gathering at the community hall in Jitra near here.

Later, reporters who approached him at the airport here, asked whether he was speaking in a lighter vein or seriously taking about the general election, he said: "I think PAS should get ready... PAS, Semangat 46 should be prepared because we're going to hold an election.

"They're scared. They dare not... if there is an election, they are finished," he said.

In his speech Dr Mahathir said the PAS-led government in Kelantan could not deliver what it had promised in the last general election including introducing the Hudud (Islamic penal code). -- more

▼13/08/21-48MSF

CNS2320

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Mahathir-election 2 (last) Alor Setar

The Prime Minister said the Kelantan Menteri Besar Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat had in turn said it was alright that the state government had not been able to honour its pledges.

"If he cannot make good his promises, then what's the use of making promises," he said.

Dr Mahathir said the PAS-led state government had admitted that it was difficult to introduce the Hudud whereas Umno was long aware of this.

He said the prevalent situation in the country did not permit PAS' plans to be carried out.

"After all, we have not been doing something unislamic," he said.

Dr Mahathir said the Barisan Nasional government did not reject the Hudud laws but Islam allows for flexibility in specific situations.

He said: "They've promised but they can't do it."

Dr Mahathir said: "I don't promise anything, but we still deliver.

There's no need to make promises. If we still want to promise, just promise to do good. This will do." -- Bernama

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▼13/08/22-04MSF