

▼31/01/17-44MST

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Mahathir-Sabah

BN WANTS TO ESTABLISH CLEAN, EFFICIENT AND TRUSTWORTHY GOVT IN SABAH

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BEAUFORT, Jan 31 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today gave the assurance that a truly clean, efficient and trustworthy government will be established in Sabah if the Barisan Nasional (BN) wins the state election next month.

"The new Sabah BN government will be different from the BN government which had administered the state," he told more than 10,000 people at a gathering at the Padang Bandaran here this evening. Polling in the state election has been set for Feb 18 and 19. Nomination is on Feb 7.

Dr Mahathir, who is BN chairman, said: "We will establish a BN government different from the previous BN government. This government will strive for the people... (its leaders) will visit constituencies and listen to the people's problems and overcome them."

He said that if any of the BN leaders failed to deliver, they would be replaced with people who were clean, efficient and trustworthy.

Sabah was administered by the BN until the Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) withdrew from the coalition just before the general election in 1990.

Dr Mahathir said: "This is the promise of the BN. The promise will be fulfilled, and Sabah will emerge as a successful and outstanding state in Malaysia." -- more

MOK MGN

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Mahathir-Sabah 2 Beaufort

Dr Mahathir said the "Sabah Baru" (new Sabah) to be administered by the BN would be for the people of Sabah themselves and would not be an administration controlled from Kuala Lumpur as alleged by PBS leaders to intimidate the people of the state.

He said the BN was convinced the people of Sabah wanted a government which was truly honest and unsoiled by corruption.

"I assure you that I and my colleagues (from the BN component parties) will act against BN leaders in Sabah if they resort to malpractices. We normally take action against menteri besar or chief ministers if they commit an offence," he said.

He said the BN would not allow its leaders in Sabah to only struggle for their own interests and those of their families but to take the welfare of the people into consideration.

"We want them to work hard for the people, not for themselves. If they do not know how to do it, we will show the way and provide guidance," he said. -- more

MOK MGN

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Mahathir-Sabah 3 Beaufort

Dr Mahathir said leaders who gave priority to themselves would be replaced so that the people of Sabah would enjoy development projects and continue to be looked after.

He also said that the BN would ensure that its election candidates would be from among people who were honest and trustworthy and came from Sabah.

The time had come, he said, for Sabah to be developed just like the other states in Malaysia.

The prime minister said a university would be established in Sabah if the BN won the state election.

"Not only that, many more development projects will be implemented for the benefit of the people of Sabah," he said.

Dr Mahathir said Sabah should actually be more progressive than many other Malaysian states if it was administered properly because it had greater potential than some other states.

"The BN plan to develop Sabah is not a plan on paper only but which has to be implemented for the benefit of the people," he said. -- more

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Mahathir-Sabah 4 (last) Beaufort

The prime minister also said that the federal government did not want to interfere if the Sabah government was well administered and the people were able to enjoy development.

"We will only take action if something bad happens. We are convinced that no one in Sabah wants the state government to commit offences, cheat, and indulge in corruption," he said.

He said people who did not wish to interfere in crime were those who wanted to commit crime.

Dr Mahathir said the state election this time was important for the people of Sabah to emerge out of the misfortune they had been under the PBS rule for nine years. -- Bernama

MOK MGN

▼31/01/19-25MST