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Mahathir-Campaign

NO PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE BAN IN PARTY'S CONSTITUTION, DR MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 12 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today there is no proposal as yet to include the ban on campaigning, misuse of power and political corruption in the Umno Constitution.

The Umno President said that although he was unhappy that the ban was not totally observed by the election candidates and the delegates, it had not reached a stage where it was necessary to incorporate it in the Constitution.

He said he did not know who had failed to observe the ban "but only God and persons concerned know."

"I do not know whether all those who won in the election on Wednesday and Thursday are clean and I also do not know whether those who lost are not clean," he said at a news conference after the end of the Umno General Assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) here.

Dr Mahathir said the Special Committee was still studying complaints of alleged abuses by the candidates and if there were concrete evidence, appropriate actions would be taken.

Asked whether there were such evidence against six candidates who were dropped from contesting in the election, he said, "There is clear evidence from one perspective but we could not carry out full investigation as condition did not permit so."

"As such, I was forced to rely on the reports and information received. If we listen to all, none seemed to be involved in corruption but then again money changed hands," he said.

On the future of those involved, Dr Mahathir said the action taken would not jeopardise their chances to seek election in the future.

"I think, their chances will be jeopardised. Today, they lost, tomorrow they might win, depending on how we operate," he said.

In this respect, Dr Mahathir said he had proposed the setting up an Umno Institute in his winding-up speech to enable studies and researches be made on the party. -- BERNAMA

ZAB NMO ABG