

12 AUG 1997

Mahathir-convention

DR MAHATHIR TO CLOSE KELANTAN UMNO CONVENTION IN SEMERAK

KOTA BAHARU, Aug 12 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed will officiate the closing of the Kelantan Umno Convention in Semerak on Aug 29 in conjunction with the Barisan Nasional (BN)'s victory in the Semerak state by-election yesterday.

Kelantan BN Chief Datuk Annuar Musa said Dr Mahathir would address some 20,000 people including the people of Semerak for voting the BN candidate Kamarudin Mohd Nor in the by-election.

A rousing welcome would await Dr Mahathir, escorted by 778 outriders for 18 kilometres from Pasir Puteh to Cherang Ruku, he told reporters here.

The figure 778 represented the BN's majority in the by-election where Kamarudin, 50, polled 5,370 beating Wan Mohd Fauzi Wan Hussain, 37, of PAS (4,592 votes) and Mohd Din Nizam Din, 57, of Angkatan Keadilan Insan Malaysia (AKIM) who polled 27 votes.

Annuar said also joining the procession would be 43 Kancil, representing the number of seats in the Kelantan Legislative Assembly.

Dr Mahathir would also receive a declaration agreed at the convention on the theme of BN's Future Agenda in Kelantan".

On the BN's victory, Annuar said Umno members should not allow the victory to make them complacent in pursuing the objective of recapturing Kelantan from PAS.

He said the BN would keep its promise to bring changes to the people in Semerak to allow them to enjoy the benefit of being served by the BN.

"The Prime Minister has directed that all pledges made to the people of Semerak during the campaigning period be fulfilled," he said.

The main agenda would be to eradicate poverty and enhance the basic facilities like roads and water supply which were still wanting, he said.

Annuar said a committee chaired by Kamarudin would be set up with Rubber Industries Smallholder Development Authority (Risda) appointed as the agency entrusted with eradicating poverty. -- BERNAMA

BD ABG