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Dr M: It's verdict of people against court's judgement

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BARISAN Nasional candidate Mong Dagang's victory with an increased majority in the Bukit Begunan state by-election shows that voters were not pleased with the court's decision to nullify the previous election result, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"This is the verdict of the people against the judgement," Dr Mahathir told reporters after the launch of MEC City in Kuantan yesterday.

Mong, of Parti Bansa Dayak Sarawak, obtained 5,640 votes against 1,025 secured by independent Jack Bujang during the by-election on Sunday.

Acknowledging that the court had the final say on the matter, Dr Mahathir, however, said the decision was not quite right as the judge himself said the winning candidate and his representative were not involved in vote-buying, although it was discovered that some money had changed hands.

"Whether or not it was for that the candidate or opposing candidate we don't know," he said, when asked to comment on the matter.

Dr Mahathir expressed concern that it was quite possible that people would deliberately hand over money to a candidate and snap a picture of the incident and later use it to allege corruption against him during election.

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