

25 SEP 1998

Dompok-Election

BETTER TO HAVE STATE ELECTION DURING GOOD WEATHER CONDITIONS - DOMPOK

KOTA KINABALU, Sept 25 (Bernama) -- Chief Minister Tan Sri Bernard Dompok said today it will be better if the next state election is held when the weather conditions in Sabah are good.

He feared that the smooth conduct of the election process might be affected if the election was called during the La Nina weather phenomenon, which is expected to hit Sabah next month.

It was reported that La Nina would bring exceptionally high rainfall causing massive floods particularly in Sabah and Sarawak and the east coast states in Peninsular Malaysia.

"If possible, we do not want to have the election during the flood season as it will affect campaigning and polling," he told reporters after launching a state-level science and technology promotional programme, here.

Dompok, who is also Sabah Barisan Nasional (BN) chief, was commenting on a statement by Election Commission chairman Datuk Harun Din yesterday that the commission would be more comfortable if the election was held in fine weather conditions.

The mandate of the current State Legislative Assembly expires on March 18.

Dompok said he did not discuss about the election with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad when he was in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

-- BERNAMA

JS TS