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Mohamed-Election

BN ALMOST DECIDED ON CANDIDATES FOR SABAH ELECTION

KOTA KINABALU, Dec 19 (Bernama) -- The Barisan Nasional (BN) is now in the final stages of selecting its candidates for the coming Sabah state election, its secretary-general Datuk Seri Mohamed Rahmat said today.

He said although some people were still making "appeals" on candidates for the polls, "I think it is already too late because we are almost decided".

All parties concerned should stop lobbying for seats and should accept decisions made by the BN leadership, said Mohamed who is Information Minister.

"Of course all component parties have a right to offer candidates but the BN will pick the most qualified. For sure the BN chairman (Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad) will consider various aspects and only the best will be selected," he told reporters at the end of his three-day visit to Sabah.

He reminded BN parties to support all candidates representing the coalition even if they are from another component party.

"It is not appropriate to harbour any feeling of dissatisfaction, what more when we are making efforts for BN to be returned to power in the state," he said.

Asked if the list of candidates has been finalised, he said: "I have seen this matter and (with regard to) the question of allocation of seats and candidates, we are now almost 100 percent ready," he said.

Mohamed said the important thing now was for BN component parties and BN workers to be ready to play their role to ensure another BN victory in Sabah.

Asked on BN's chances in the polls, he said BN was confident of returning to power as it has been well-received by the people.

Sabah BN has been making thorough preparations for the election which must be held before March 18 next year.

BN controls 43 of the 48 seats in the Sabah State Assembly.

-- BERNAMA

JS MAI YBY