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Abu Hassan-Election

SELANGOR BN UPBEAT TO REPEAT LAST ELECTION VICTORY

TANJUNG KARANG, Oct 17 (Bernama) -- The Selangor Barisan Nasional (BN) is confident to repeat its 1995 election victory in the next general election, Menteri Besar Datuk Abu Hassan Omar said today.

He said the State BN election machinery had been geared up to work hard to ensure a thumping victory for the ruling coalition in the next polls.

With the support of all BN component parties, the BN could maintain its present majority in the state assembly, he said.

The BN won 45 of the 48 state seats in the last election, said Abu Hassan, who is also Selangor BN chief.

"I'm confident the people will continue to give their mandate for the BN to rule but we have to work hard for it," he told reporters after performing the ground-breaking ceremony for a rural centre at Kampung Sungai Gulang-Gulang, about 20km from here.

He was commenting on the statement by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Tokya yesterday that the BN would still form the government although its majority might be reduced in the next general election.

Abu Hassan said Dr Mahathir might have made the statement after a realistic analysis of the situation in the country, taking into account the present economic slowdown and the political turn of events.

"However, the statement is really a timely reminder for us to ensure we are not over confident in the next general election," he said.

Abu Hassan also said nine party members from Selangor had been issued with show-cause letters as investigations by the State Umno Liaison Committee showed they were involved in the so-called reform movement initiated by former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Another three, who were caught gambling, had also been asked to show-cause, said Abu Hassan, who is also Selangor Umno Liaison chief.

He said the 12 members must reply to the letters to prove their innocence against the allegations.

-- BERNAMA

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