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Abdullah-Barisan

ABDULLAH SUGGESTS THAT BN EMULATE UMNO IN FACING GENERAL ELECTION

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 29 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi today suggested that the Barisan Nasional (BN) component parties emulate Umno which had started inspecting the preparations for the next general election.

He said Umno had started inspecting the preparations at the divisional level nationwide.

"I suggest that the non-Umno component parties follow suit unless they have their own method which they normally use for the general election," he told reporters, here.

Abdullah, who is also Umno vice-president carrying out the duties of the deputy president, earlier chaired a meeting of the BN 25th Anniversary celebration committee and the BN management committee attended by all the BN components including those from Sabah and Sarawak.

He said all the 14 BN component parties present did not oppose the suggestion and agreed to cooperate at all levels in facing the election.

He said that in every election, Umno's preparation was to ensure the victory of the BN candidate irrespective of whether he was from Umno or the other component parties.

Abdullah said all the BN representatives also agreed not to raise issues relating to candidates and the distribution of seats to contest at the national and state levels.

This would all be decided between the BN component parties and Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as BN chairman when the time came, he said, adding that their agreement made things easy.

He said the spirit of consensus was a BN spirit which reflected its willingness to cooperate for the good and the victory of the coalition.

On the BN's 25th anniversary which falls on Oct 24, Abdullah said the date and venue had yet to be decided.

However, he was satisfied with all the preparations of the celebration sub-committee.

He said no official invitation would be issued as all members of the component parties could attend the celebrations.

"Any number can come...this is important because I believe that for members of the BN components, this is a time to be proud of the the BN's 25 years of success in helming the nation," he said.

-- BERNAMA

RZS MAI JK