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Shariff-Election

ALLOCATION OF BN SEATS IN PULAU PINANG REMAINS THE SAME, SAYS SHARIFF

PULAU PINANG, Nov 10 (Bernama) -- The allocation of parliamentary and state seats for Barisan Nasional (BN) components parties to contest in the next general election will remain the same.

State BN deputy chairman Datuk Mohamed Shariff Omar said today the current allocation would be maintained because it was a collective agreement reached long ago.

Pulau Pinang has 11 parliamentary and 33 state seats.

In the last general election, Umno contested 12 state and four parliamentary seats, Gerakan, 11 state and four parliamentary seats, MCA, nine state and three parliamentary seats and MIC, one state seat.

Shariff told reporters after chairing the state BN meeting, here, that there was no reason to change this arrangement as the understanding among the BN components was to ensure BN's victory.

He said the opposition parties in the state would take a severe beating in this coming election because of the glaring confusion within their pact and their weak election machinery.

Shariff, who is also Deputy Chief Minister, said the state BN's election machinery was prepared from the beginning and would ensure that the BN government was returned to power to ensure the wellbeing of the people.

"There are three major factors that favour a BN victory in this election -- the government's efforts to revive the country's economy which have been successful, the budget tabled recently which shows that the government gives priority to the people's welfare and the opposition pact which is in disarray," he said.

On the challenge from KeAdilan, Shariff said the party could not face the election because it did not have an efficient election machinery.

"They are only giving ceramah jointly organised in certain areas," he said.

Prime Minister atuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today announced that Parliament will be dissolved tomorrow to pave the way for the country's 10th general election.

-- BERNAMA

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