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Appoint directors of operations, parties told

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PENAMPANG, Fri. - Chief Minister and State Barisan Nasional chairman Tan Sri Bernard Dompok has directed each of the nine State BN component parties to appoint a director of operations for the upcoming State elections.

He said the directors, whose role would be to ensure the smooth running of the election machinery of their respective parties, will be stationed at the State BN operations centre in Putatan, near here.

Speaking after performing the 'lion eye opening' ceremony for two lion dance troupes at the Tai Pak Kung temple in Kampung Baru, Dompok said he would be in charge of the BN's overall election machinery by virtue of being State BN chairman.

"All the directors of operation will be reporting to me as I will be in charge of the BN's overall election machinery," he said, adding that it was his responsibility to ensure that the BN's election machinery was in place.

Dompok said all the State BN components recognised the need to work as a team to ensure victory for the coalition.

The nine State BN components are Umno, Parti Demokratik Sabah, Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah, Angkatan Keadilan Rakyat, Sabah Progressive Party, Liberal Democratic Party, MCA, Gerakan and MIC.

On the request by Wanita Umno to field at least three women candidates in the coming State election, Dompok said all requests would be considered.

He said the role of women was crucial in ensuring that the BN is returned to power in the election.

Dompok said he was satisfied with the movement's preparations for the elections.

Wanita Umno chief Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman had made a formal request to Umno president and national BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to field three women candidates in the Sabah elections.

Presently, Lumadan Assemblywoman Datuk Dayang Mahani Pengiran Ahmad Raffae is the only female BN member in the 48-seat State Legislative Assembly.

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