

16 NOV 1999

Shahidan-Honour

BN WILL REGAIN ARAU - SHAHIDAN

KANGAR, Nov 16 (Bernama) -- Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim today pledged that the state Barisan Nasional (BN) will regain the Arau parliamentary seat it lost to the opposition in a by-election last year.

Shahidan who is the state BN chairman said the Nov 29 election was the best platform for him to regain lost pride for the coalition.

In the by-election for the Arau parliamentary seat in July last year, PAS state commissioner Hashim Jasin defeated BN's Ismail Kassim.

Shahidan also said he was not bothered with rumpours that he would be moved to the federal level after the general election.

"I have no qualms whether I am picked to either contest a state or parliamentary seat or left out from the lineup," he told reporters, here.

Rumours were rife that Shahidan who is the state BN election operations director would contest a parliamentary seat in the general election.

Shahidan said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had not informed him of any changes.

Shaidan also said he had met all BN incumbents in the state and was given assurance that they would work hard to ensure victory for the coalition regardless whether they were retained in the candidates lineup or the otherwise.

-- BERNAMA

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