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Election-Holiday

CUEPACS ASKS PSD TO DECLARE HOLIDAY ON POLLING DAY

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 12 (Bernama) -- Cuepacs will request the Public Service Department (PSD) to declare Nov 29 as a holiday for government employees to enable them to vote in the general election.

Its president N. Siva Subramaniam said the holiday was necessary particularly for civil servants who had to go outstation to vote.

He was commenting on the Election Commission's announcement that polling day for the 10th general election would be on Nov 29, which falls on a Monday. Nomination is on Nov 20.

Siva said Cuepacs would also send a delegation to Kubang Pasu to provide moral support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on nomination day.

He said the delegation is a show of support and appreciation from government employees to Dr Mahathir for his contributions to the development of the country's public service.

Siva said the polling day would not be a problem although it clashed with the SPM and STPM examinations schedules.

The Education Ministry would make the necessary adjustments for the examination papers scheduled for the day, said Siva, who is also secretary-general of the National Union of Teaching Profession (NUTP).

He also said secondary schools would not be affected as only primary schools were being used as nomination and polling centres.

"If secondary schools were involved, we can look for another school," he said.

On teachers recruited for election work, he said it would not be a problem as only part of them were involved in invigilating examinations and marking exam papers.

In SEREMBAN, DAP chairman Dr Chen Man Hin urged the government to declare Nov 29 as a public holiday to enable workers to come out in full force to cast their ballots.

"Since the polling day falls on a working day, some employers will be reluctant to spare some time for their workers to vote, he said.

He said the general election was important as it would decide the country's future.

-- BERNAMA

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