

14 DEC 1999

DAP WANTS ASSURANCE ON ISLAMISATION POLICIES

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 14 (Bernama) -- The DAP today called on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and the new cabinet at its first meeting tomorrow to pledge to Malaysians that there will be no introduction of greater Islamisation policies "detrimental" to a democratic secular Malaysia.

Its secretary-general Kerk Kim Hock said the party had received feedback from non-Muslims who expressed their fears that Umno, which had seen its parliamentary strength reduced from 88 to 72 in the recent general election, would embark on greater Islamisation policies to compete with PAS for influence among the Muslims.

"The non-Muslim's fear about this possible trend has been further strengthened by the fact that DAP, which has been on the forefront fighting for a democratic secular Malaysia has been weakened in its parliamentary strength," he said in a statement.

The 1999 election result had seen the emergence of a stronger PAS which had a parliamentary strength of 27 members of parliament and a much weaker DAP with only 10 MPs.

Kerk said the party also calls on all cabinet ministers to publicly declare their assests as a sign of their commitment to set a high political standard in the new politics of the millennium.

-- BERNAMA

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