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Mohamed-BN

DO NOT INSIST ON SEAT ALLOCATIONS

JOHOR BAHRU, April 19 (Bernama) -- Barisan Nasional (BN) component parties have been asked not to insist when it comes to seat allocations for the coming general election.

BN secretary general Datuk Seri Mohamed Rahmat said such a matter should not turn out to be a problem to the BN.

"Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the BN chairman, will decide on it after due consideration is given to the BN's ability to field the right candidates," he said.

Mohamed, the Information Minister, said after a special briefing for the Johor Information Department staff here today that each component party would be given responsibilities to carry out at various levels.

"These include obtaining seats in the Dewan Negara, Dewan Rakyat, State Legislative Assemblies and town and district councils," he said.

People's Progressive Party (PPP) president Datuk M. Kayveas said last month that the BN component party was preparing a memorandum concerning seat allocations for the coming general election.

He said PPP wished to be allocated seats to contest in Perak, Pulau Pinang, Kedah, Selangor, Wilayah Persekutuan, Melaka and Johor.

PPP was not allocated any seat in the 1995 general election.

Mohamed said the BN acknowledged the PPP's role as a partner but he hoped it would not be too insistent concerning seat allocations.

"I hope when the issue is decided, all component parties will accept it in good faith," he said.

He said the BN has always been prepared for the general election and he is confident this would help ensure the BN a big win.

He added that new developments in Malaysia such as the emergence of new parties and other issues have only strengthened the BN's resolve to work harder for the people.

-- BERNAMA

MKO THG