

17 JAN 1999

Dompok-BN

DOMPOK KEEPS MUM ON ELECTION DATE

KOTA KINABALU, Jan 17 (Bernama) -- Sabah Chief Minister Tan Sri Bernard Dompok today kept the guessing game going on the date for the dissolution of the State Legislative Assembly.

He said the matter was not specifically discussed at the meeting between Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and the Sabah Barisan Nasional (BN) component leaders in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

However, Dompok expressed confidence that the governing BN would win the state election outright.

"The BN leaders did not come to see the Prime Minister specifically to talk about the state election... we talk about Sabah in general and since the end of the Assembly's term is approaching, naturally the subject crops up," he told reporters here.

"The election dates were not specifically discussed nor did we determine the candidates for the election."

He did not foresee any major difference in opinion among the Sabah BN component parties on the allocation of seats.

All nine Sabah BN component parties were represented at the meeting with Dr Mahathir yesterday.

Dompok, who is also Sabah BN chairman, said the state election dates should no longer be an issue since the current State Legislative Assembly was already towards the end of its term.

The term of the Assembly, with 48 elected members and six nominated members, ends on March 18.

He said the Sabah BN component leaders briefed the Prime Minister on the party's strength and standing and "we know we will be leading the state into the new millennium."

Dompok earlier presented RM500,000 as part of the state government's RM1.5 million contribution for the construction of a new building for the Fook Tet Kung temple in Donggongon, near here.

-- BERNAMA

JS THG