

30 NOV 1999

Election-Mahathir

DR M RETAINS KUBANG PASU FOR SEVENTH TERM

ALOR SETAR, Nov 30 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad retained his Kubang Pasu parliamentary seat for the seventh consecutive term, fending off a challenge from PAS' central committee member Subky Latif.

He defended the seat with a 10,138-vote majority. He polled 22,399 votes against Subky's 12,261. The results were announced at 1.34am.

In the last general election, Dr Mahathir won the seat with a majority of 17,226 votes. He received 24,495 votes, beating PAS' Ahmad Mohamed Alim who obtained 7,269 votes.

Kubang Pasu has 45,925 voters. A total of 35,337 voters or 78.62 per cent cast their ballots today. There were 677 spoilt votes.

Dr Mahathir first contested and won the seat unopposed in 1974 when PAS, a traditional political enemy of Umno, joined Barisan Nasional (BN)

In 1978, he defeated PAS' former secretary-general Abdul Halim Arshat (rpt Arshat) and in 1982, he fended off a challenge from the then PAS president Haji Yusof Rawa Abdullah.

Dr Mahathir had lost to Yusof with a slim 989-vote majority in the Kota Setar Selatan parliamentary seat in 1969.

The prime minister again defended the seat, beating Dr Azizan Ismail in 1986.

In 1990, Dr Mahathir defeated Hamim president Datuk Sudin Wahab who contested under the now defunct Parti Melayu Semangat 46 ticket.

-- BERNAMA

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