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ELECTION COMMISSION HEAD IS GOVT PURVIEW, SAYS DR MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, June 7 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the appointment of the new Election Commission chairman is not within the purview of the opposition.

"We have been choosing the Election Commission chairman all these while although some EC chairmen we find do not seem to be favouring us.

"Though we complain about the appointment of certain people who are responsible for registering voters, for example, the commission has not helped us in any way and so we have lots of people registered where they are not staying," he told a news conference after opening the 46th annual general assembly of the People's Progressive Party, here.

Election Commission chairman Datuk Harun Din is scheduled to retire on June 21. Opposition leader Lim Kit Siang has asked the government to consult the opposition before appointing a new Election Commission chairman.

Dr Mahathir said: "We can't complain because when we complain, they do the usual investigations and they say everything is right and proper.

"I'm not accusing anybody of doing this but some of the people who are appointed by them (EC) to register voters are obviously one-sided," he added.

-- BERNAMA

GM RM