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Mahathir-Election

ELECTION NOT A BEAUTY CONTEST, SAYS MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the general election is not a beauty contest to determine who is the prettiest and the most popular.

He said the election was to form a sincere and credible government with good ideas that could develop the country.

"Only stupid people think that the election is to test who is more popular," he said when addressing over 15,000 Barisan Nasional (BN) Youth and Wanita members at the Putra World trade Centre, here.

Dr Mahathir, who is also the BN chairman, said an election was a process to enable the people to pick a government that gave priority to the country, not to pick a government made up of people who are always seeking help from foreigners.

"We do not want a government selected by (United State Vice-President) Al Gore or a government selected by a foreign power or owned by the IMF (International Monetary Fund). We want our own government," he said, to shouts of agreement from those present.

Dr Mahathir also urged the people to reject political parties that were prepared to ask for aid and conspire with the big powers to achieve their ambitions to win the election.

He said BN was prepared to face any challenge that would arise in the coming election and hoped to vanquish the country's enemies.

-- BERNAMA

SFI JK