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Mahathir-SPR

GOVT HAS CANDIDATES FOR SPR CHAIRMAN'S POST

SEPANG, June 4 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that the government has shortlisted several candidates as a possible successor to Election Commission Chairman (SPR) Datuk Harun Din who will retire on June 21.

The Prime Minister said Harun's successor would be announced once the government has made a decision.

Dr Mahathir said it was time for Harun to retire because the government had extended his term of service several times.

Harun's retirement would not affect preparations for the next general election which must be held by June next year, he told a press conference at the KL International Airport here on his return from a seven-day visit to Japan.

"He has prepared everything, so there will be no problems," he said.

Asked on the possibility of the government extending Harun's service until after the general election, Dr Mahathir said there was no decision to do so yet.

When announcing his retirement in Johor Baharu today, Harun said he would retire on June 21 after holding the post for nine years.

Harun said his retirement was in accordance with the Federal Constitution as he is already 65 years old.

Harun was appointed SPR Chairman on Oct 1 1990.

-- BERNAMA

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