

21 FEB 1999

Abu Hassan-Election

MB WANTS METICULOUS PREPARATION FOR GENERAL ELECTION

SHAH ALAM, Feb 21 (Bernama) -- Selangor Barisan Nasional (BN) component parties have been asked to be meticulous in their preparation for the coming general election.

Selangor Menteri Datuk Seri Abu Hassan Omar said this was necessary to ensure a landslide victory for the BN.

"I want the state election machinery to carry out all strategies and planning without any hitches to ensure an overwhelming victory for the BN," he said when addressing the Peoples Progressive Party's (PPP) state delegates covention, here, today.

PPP President Datuk M.Kayveas and Selangor PPP chief Alex Thiagarasan were also present. About 1,000 delegates attended the one-day convention.

Abu Hassan also urged state components parties to respect all decisions made by the national BN leadership, though some decisions might not be in their favour.

For an example, he said, the allocation of seats could create some frustration among some components parties but what was important was the victory of the party and not individuals and certain groups.

Abu Hassan, who is Selangor BN chairman, also urged the state BN components parties to furnish the state BN headquarters with a complete list of branch and divisional leaders to facilitate effective communication during the election.

Speaking to reporters later, he said since the allocation of seats fell under the jurisdiction of BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, it was only proper that BN leaders discuss the matter with him (Mahatir).

Thiagarasan, in his speech earlier, requested Abu Hassan to allocate two parliamentary and four state seats for the party in the coming general election.

Thiagarasan also wanted future appointments for state local councillors and board members of state companies and their subsidiaries to reflect on the PPP's membership strength at state level. The PPP has 694 branches in the state with 87,942 members.

Abu Hassan said the state government would give due consideration to the party's request.

-- BERNAMA

KM RM