

10 NOV 1999

MDP TO FIELD CANDIDATES IN SEVERAL STATES

KLANG, Nov 10 (Bernama) -- The newly registered Malaysian Democratic Party (MDP) expects to contest in several states in the coming general election, its organising secretary, Chua Kow Eng, said today.

The party would only field candidates in areas where it was really organised and had strong membership, he said, naming Selangor, Kuala Lumpur, Negeri Sembilan, Perak, Pulau Pinang and Sabah.

"We have already submitted our election logo to the Election Commission 10 days ago for approval," he told Bernama when contacted by telephone. The party's registration was approved last month.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today announced that the Parliament and state assemblies would be dissolved simultaneously tomorrow to pave the way for the country's 10th general election.

Chua, the Bandar Klang assemblyman, resigned from the DAP in February this year together with a few other party stalwarts, citing disagreement with the way the party was being run by its secretary-General, Lim Kit Siang, and formed the MDP.

Following his resignation, he declared himself an independent representative in the Selangor state assembly, shrinking the DAP's strength in the assembly from three seats to two.

Asked about the party's membership strength, Chua said it had yet to be ascertained as membership forms despatched to several states have yet to come in.

-- BERNAMA

KM JK