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Abdullah-Election

NO REASON TO CONSULT OPPOSITION ON APPOINTMENT OF SPR CHIEF

KEPALA BATAS, Pulau Pinang, June 6 (Bernama) -- The Government does not propose to consult opposition parties on naming a successor to Election Commission (SPR) Chairman Datuk Harun who retires this month as elections in this country have always been free and fair and carried out smoothly.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the appointment of an Election Commission Chairman had never been an issue and this had never posed a problem in the history of general elections in Malaysia.

He said if the Opposition had any problem related to the general election they should contact the Election Commission for explanations and so on.

Abdullah said this when asked to comment on a news report which quoted DAP Secretary-General Lim Kit Siang as asking Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to consult the opposition before appointing a successor to Harun.

Harun retires on June 21 after heading the commission for nine years.

"The Opposition will always come up with all kinds of issues with the approach of the General Election and we consider this as normal but as far as the General Election is concerned it has always been conducted without any problem," he said after chairing a meeting of the Kepala Batas Umno Division here.

-- BERNAMA

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