

16 NOV 1999
PPP-Seat
NO SEAT FOR PPP, SAYS KAYVEAS

PUTRAJAYA, Nov 16 (Bernama) -- The People's Progressive Party (PPP) is not getting any seat to contest in the 10th general election on Nov 29, said its president Datuk M Kayveas.

Kayveas said he was informed of this by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is the Barisan Nasional (BN) chairman, during a meeting at the Prime Minister's office here today.

"I am fully satisfied with the Prime Minister's explanation. PPP members should be patient and continue to fully support the BN and they should wait for their time to come," he told reporters after the meeting.

He said among the main reasons given were that there was no additional seat and the number of seats in the peninsula had remained as in previous years.

Kayveas said Dr Mahathir gave the assurance that PPP would get seats in future when new ones were created.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, First Finance Minister Tun Daim Zainuddin, Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak and Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob.

Kayveas said he was certain PPP members would be disappointed with the decision and that he would give them an explanation.

"The decision has been made, I accept it and we will fully support the BN in the coming election, we will participate in every ceramah and whatever plans we already have set," he said.

He said the party's election machinery would continue with its work.

Kayveas said the seat allocation issue was over and it was now time for everybody to work to ensure the BN's victory in the general election.

Asked if the PPP had been offered a senatorship, he said: "we will leave all that till after the election".

Other BN component party leaders who met Dr Mahathir today include MIC president Datuk Seri S Samy Vellu and Gerakan president Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik.

Others seen leaving the Prime Minister's Department premises were Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman, Kelantan Umno chief Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah and Dr Mahathir's special representative for the Kubang Pasu parliamentary constituency Tan Sri Osman Aroff.

-- BERNAMA
AFY MFJ THG