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Assemblies-Dissolved  
STATE ASSEMBLIES TO BE DISSOLVED TOMORROW

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 10 (Bernama) -- All the state legislative assemblies in the country, except for Sabah and Sarawak, will be simultaneously dissolved tomorrow to pave the way for simultaneous state and parliamentary elections.

Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah today gave his consent for Parliament to be dissolved tomorrow for the country's 10th general election.

The Sabah and Sarawak state assemblies will not be dissolved because Sabah just had its state election in March this year while Sarawak is scheduled to have its election next year.

In ALOR SETAR, Kedah state assembly Speaker Abdul Razak Hashim said the assembly would be dissolved tomorrow.

He said the dissolution was in line with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's directive to dissolve all the state assemblies tomorrow.

Dr Mahathir, at a news conference which was telecast live from Putrajaya this afternoon, announced the dissolution of Parliament and the state assemblies effective tomorrow to pave the way for the general election.

Abdul Razak said he and Kedah Menteri Besar Tan Sri Sanusi Junid would have an audience with the Sultan of Kedah to seek his consent for the dissolution tomorrow morning.

With the dissolution, the state assembly sitting to table the 200 budget for Kedah, scheduled for Nov 15, was cancelled, he said.

In KUALA TERENGGANU, Terengganu state assembly Speaker Datuk Abdul Rahman Mohamad said Menteri Besar Tan Sri Wan Mokhtar Ahmad would have an audience with the Sultan of Terengganu after his return from Kuala Lumpur to hand over the letter of dissolution of the assembly for signing.

Wan Mokhtar was expected to return to Kuala Terengganu tonight, he said.

The Barisan Nasional has more than two-thirds majority in Terengganu with 25 state seats and seven parliamentary seats while PAS has seven state seats and one parliamentary seat.

In PULAU PINANG, Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon is expected to present the letter advising Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Dr Hamdan Sheikh Tahir on the dissolution of the state assembly tomorrow morning.

Dr Koh's press secretary, Zasman Asna, said the chief minister would also call a news conference on the matter at his office tomorrow.

Meanwhile, state assembly Speaker Datuk Yahaya Abdul Hamid said he had yet to receive any letter on the dissolution and added that the regulations required the letter on the dissolution to be presented to the Yang Dipertua Negeri first before the announcement.

In MELAKA, Chief Minister Datuk Seri Abu Zahar Isnin is expected to call on Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Syed Ahmad Shahabuddin tomorrow afternoon to sign the notice of dissolution.

In the last general election in 1995, the Barisan Nasional won 22 of the 25 state seats and four of the five parliamentary seats in Melaka.

In JOHOR BAHRU, Johor state assembly Speaker Datuk Ali Hassan told Bernama that Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman would have an audience with the Sultan of Johor at Istana Bukit Serene at noon to seek his consent for the dissolution of the state assembly.

The Barisan Nasional swept all the 40 state seats in Johor in the last

general election with Umno holding 25, MCA, 11, and Gerakan and MIC, two each.

Meanwhile, in IPOH, the Perak state assembly sitting tomorrow has been cancelled, according to a statement from the Perak Menteri Besar's office.

The sitting, which started yesterday with the tabling of the Supply Bill 2000 by Menteri Besar Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib, was to have ended tomorrow.

In KANGAR, Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim will have an audience with the Raja of Perlis as soon as possible on the dissolution of the Perlis state assembly.

In SEREMBAN, Negeri Sembilan state assembly Speaker Datuk Hamdan Mohammad said the assembly would be dissolved tomorrow after obtaining the consent of the Yang Dipertuan Besar, Tuanku Ja'afar.

In KUANTAN, Pahang state assembly Speaker Datuk Abdullah Kia said the tabling of the state budget at its sitting, scheduled for Nov 22-25, was automatically cancelled with the dissolution of the state assembly tomorrow.

He said Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob would have an audience with the Sultan of Pahang to seek his consent to sign the notice of dissolution of the Pahang state assembly.

The Barisan Nasional won all the 11 parliamentary seats and 37 of the 38 state seats in Pahang in the last general election with the sole opposition seat in Triang held by the DAP.

In KOTA BAHARU, Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat will have an audience with the Sultan Kelantan tonight for his consent to dissolve the Kelantan state assembly.

The state assembly would be dissolved simultaneously with Parliament tomorrow, he told reporters after meeting state PAS leaders at the menteri besar's official residence.

The Kelantan PAS was prepared for the general election and had decided on its candidates, he said, adding that PAS was confident of being returned to the state government which had been under its power since 1990.

PAS now has 26 state seat and six parliamentary seats in Kelantan while the Barisan Nasional has 17 state seats and eight parliamentary seats.

In KLANG, Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Abu Hassan Omar said he would have an audience with the Regent of Selangor at Istana Mestika tomorrow morning to seek his consent for the dissolution of the state assembly.

The Barisan Nasional won 45 of the 48 state seats and made a clean sweep of the 17 parliamentary seats in Selangor in the last general election.

The DAP, which won the remaining three state seats, lost the Bandar Klang seat in February when its assemblyman, Chua Kow Eng left the party to set up the Malaysian Democratic Party.

-- BERNAMA

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