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Parliament-PM

TOUR IS FOR PM TO EXPLAIN ISSUES, NOT OUT OF FEAR OF DEFEAT

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 25 (Bernama) -- The increasingly frequent meetings between Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and the people nation-wide are not prompted by fear of the governing Barisan Nasional's defeat in the coming general election, the Dewan Rakyat was told today.

The prime minister's meet-the-people sessions during his nation-wide working visits in past weeks were to enlighten them on the country's current economic and political developments, said Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Ibrahim Ali.

These meetings also enabled the prime minister to rebut opposition allegations against the government, Ibrahim said in a written reply to Radin Malleh (PBS-Tenom).

The opposition back-bencher claimed that the meet-the-people sessions were designed to avoid the governing coalition from being unseated in the coming general election.

In another written reply to Dr Tan Seng Giaw (DAP-Kepong), Ibrahim said for the year ending March 31 this year, Petronas earned lesser after-tax profit of RM8.281 billion compared with RM11.039 billion in the previous financial year.

-- BERNAMA

NM RYN