

18/11/2000

All set for party's big event at PWTC

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - It's all systems go for tomorrow's Umno special assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre, said party executive secretary Tengku Datuk Adnan Tengku Mansor.

He said that all preparations and decorations in the interior and the exterior of the PWTC building have been completed for tomorrow's big event.

"Everything is in place to ensure that there is no untoward incident during the one-day assembly," he told the New Straits Times today.

However, Tengku Adnan disclosed that this time around, slight changes have been made particularly regarding the protocol during the assembly, which would be unlike the previous years.

He said this could be seen from the luncheon which will be hosted by party president and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Unlike previous years, he said, there would not be any VIP table at the luncheon. Instead, every supreme council member had been given a table where they would play host to the delegates sitting with them.

"They will be the ones playing hosts. The rationale behind it is to encourage more interaction between the party leadership and the grassroots leaders.

"There is a need to forge closer ties among party members and I think that by having this change, it will more or less help strengthen the party," he said.

Tengku Adnan was also quick to add that there would also not be any flag raising ceremony as practised in previous assemblies.

Flags bearing the party logo, the Barisan Nasional as well as the Jalur Gemilang, have been hoisted around the PWTC building and also on nearby roads leading to the special assembly.

Dr Mahathir will be arriving at 8.50am and the special assembly would convene at 9am sharp.

A total of 2,023 delegates from 165 divisions, including the Wanita and Youth wings, will be attending the special assembly in which crucial decisions whether to amend the party constitution will be made.

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