

Voter registration based on NRD data

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People whose ICs not on records will be rejected: PM

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today people registering as voters will have their registration rejected by the computer if their identity card numbers are not found in the National Registration Department (NRD) records.

"If a person wants to register as a voter but if his identity card number is not recorded in NRD's data base, the computer will reject the registration," the prime minister said in his written reply to Nosimah Hashim at Dewan Negara.

He said the Election Commission had started on-line registration with the NRD.

On polling day, the commission will use the NRD officers' expertise to detect if voters had doubtful do-

cuments, he said.

He said the commission had constantly made efforts to resolve the phantom voter issue by conducting thorough verification with the NRD since last year to ascertain voters' citizenship status.

Voters whose citizenship status was suspect, whose names or identity card numbers are not found in the NRD records would be struck out from the electoral roll, he said.

This enabled the roll to be updated in line with Regulation 19 of the Election Procedures (Voter Registration) 1971 to ensure the phantom voter issue will not recur, he said.

The 2001 electoral roll will be on display for public scrutiny for two weeks beginning Wednesday.

Election Commission chairman Datuk Abdul Rashid Abdul Rahman said three lists will be put up - for voters who registered before 2001 (List A); for those who registered or changed their addresses this year (List B); and for those

whose names have been struck off (List C).

He urged the public to scrutinise the roll to ensure the details are accurate so that only genuine voters are listed.

"I appeal to those who have registered to examine their names and addresses so that their right to vote in elections is guaranteed. This is an important process as once certified, the roll will be used in the next election," he added.

He said those who wish to challenge the names should submit their protest by filling in Form D.

Those who had registered as voters in the last exercise in May but did not have their names on the roll can submit their appeals by using Form C.

Voters can also browse the commission's website at www.spr.gov.my.