

02/10/2002

`BN has the most complaints regarding delineation'

MALACCA, Tues. - Most of the 289 representations on the redelineation exercise by the Election Commission are from Barisan Nasional and not the Opposition.

"About 20 per cent of the 289 representation nationwide come from the Opposition, mostly from Pas.

Hence, said Commission chairman Datuk Abdul Rashid Abdul Rahman, the Opposition parties should not claim the redelineation benefited only the ruling party.

"There are representations from the DAP but none from Parti Keadilan Nasional. Perhaps Keadilan thinks the exercise has been fair," he said after meeting representatives from the Malacca Government who made their representations today.

"The Commission is independent and we undertook the redelineation exercise fairly."

Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Rustam and Commission secretary Datuk Wan Ahmad Wan Omar were among those present at the meeting. The Malacca Government made 20 representations regarding voting districts.

Malacca was the first stop for the Commission which is on a nation-wide tour over the redelineation exercise. It will visit Perlis, Kedah, Kelantan and Penang.

Of the 289 representations, Rashid said 100 would be investigated. The others did not fulfil the criteria which include the support of at least 100 voters in the constituency.

"The Commission expects that by the end of November, we would complete gathering information on the representations.

"Following that, the commissioners will investigate the matter and amendments would be made if this was necessary."

Rashid added that the redelineated seats would be displayed again in February, and shown to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for debate in Parliament.

"If they are approved, we will use them for the next general election."