

21/06/2002

Delegate: Postpone party polls to after general election

PAHANG delegate Saifuddin Abdullah proposed that the party's divisional and national-level election, scheduled for next year, be postponed to after the general election.

This, he said, would enable the party to concentrate on the general election instead of spending time campaigning for the party polls.

"In the Ketari by-election, BN won with an over-whelming majority. Pahang BN also played an important role in the Sanggang by-election. We must win big in the next general election," said Saifuddin, who is also Temerloh Umno division chief and Malaysian Youth Council president.

On the party president's keynote address, Saifuddin said Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad spoke like a world leader.

He said it was crucial that Umno helped in opening the minds of Malays and keeping them abreast of latest developments.

"Take the proposed teaching of Science and Mathematics in English beginning next year. We must acknowledge that English is the language of knowledge," he added.

Based on a recent study in Europe, he said, 16 per cent of the people had English as their mother tongue but 69 per cent used the language in their lives and in their work.

"(Malays) must be willing to change their perception and preconceived notions. In the West, the people teach their children to swim before they can walk. Such a practice would help boost the child's immune system. This is one example of changing mindset. Malays must be willing to do this if they want to progress," he added.

(END)