

26 OCT 2003

Mahathir-BN

DR M REITERATES PROMISE TO HELP BN IN POLLS AFTER RETIREMENT

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 26 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today reiterated his promise to help the Barisan Nasional (BN) in the coming general election after his retirement.

"I will not be involved directly. I will not hold any post, will not become senior minister in the cabinet, but when the general election is called, I will try to campaign for all parties (components).

"This is because I believe only the BN can afford to bring and sustain the progress that has been achieved by the country," said Dr Mahathir, who is also BN Chairman, when opening the People's Progressive Party's (PPP) 50th General Assembly, here.

Dr Mahathir said he was happy for the support given to him despite his retirement on Friday after being at the nation's helm for 22 years.

"I feel very gratifying and happy for not being chased away from politics. Instead, I still receive the support even though I'm retiring," he said.

Dr Mahathir said it was about time for him to retire after 29 years in the government, including 22 years as Prime Minister.

"I'm retiring as I've been in the government for quite long since 1974, I've been 29 years now in the government, 22 years plus of which as Prime Minister, it's about time I retire," he added.

Also present at the assembly were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob and BN component party leaders.

-- BERNAMA

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