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Kerk-Election

DAP GEARING UP FOR GENERAL ELECTION

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 6 (Bernama) -- DAP is gearing up for the general election as it had asked the state committees to submit their candidates for parliamentary and state seats to the party's Central Executive Committee (CEC) by March, its secretary-general Kerk Kim Hock said today.

He said the decision was made at the CEC meeting yesterday as the general election could be held this year.

He said the candidate nomination forms would be sent to all branches after the party's national conference this Sunday

Kerk said although Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had said that he would retire in October, it cannot be ruled out that he would hold the election as early as in July.

"Because the Barisan Nasional's (BN) belief that with him (Dr Mahathir) personally leading the battle, it will boost the BN's chances of a greater electoral victory," he said in a statement.

Kerk said: "Whether the next general election will be held before or after Dr Mahathir retires, the next general election will be very tough, if not the toughest battle in DAP's history."

He said the party had decided to get its state committees to get ready for the election.

He said the CEC had also reminded party leaders and members to put party interests at heart and utilise internal party channels to air any grievances and problems, besides refraining from tarnishing the party's image through media statements or speeches in public functions.

The CEC had also instructed the party's disciplinary committee to take stern action against any leader or member who breached party discipline with immediate effect.

-- BERNAMA

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