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Mahathir-Candidates

WE DON'T WANT TO LOSE EVEN ONE SEAT IN KEDAH, SAYS MAHATHIR

ALOR STAR, March 11 (Bernama) -- Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the Kedah Barisan Nasional (BN) should not take it easy and be overly confident of victory in the coming general election on the assumption that the opposition has no major issues to harp on.

He said the BN machinery in particular that of Umno needed to work very hard to ensure a victory of more than two thirds in the election.

"We don't want to lose even one seat in Kedah and that is why we can't take it easy in this election. Our target is to win all seats," he said when speaking at the function to announce the Kedah BN candidates list at the official residence of Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain here today.

Dr Mahathir, who is Kedah BN election adviser, said that by setting the target to win all seats, the BN could achieve more than two-third victory.

On the other hand, he said that if over confident led to some party supporters not going out to vote, then the BN would not obtain a major victory.

As such, the former prime minister said they must all got out to vote to ensure every BN candidate would win the election.

Dr Mahathir said party workers should start to mobilise their respective election machinery in support of the candidates.

"I want the BN to win because if we lose, winning again is not easy...doesn't matter who he is, what his skin colour is and what his party is, as long as he is a BN candidate, we support.

He said they should close the operations if they were not nominated as candidates. "We must be patient and remain calm...maybe others are better than us, maybe it is not our turn yet."

He said he would also support whoever was nominated as candidates even those who were at odds with him at one time when he was nominated as a candidate.

"I'll keep my promise. I'll support whoever is nominated...the question of whether I like or not, is not the issue," he said.

He said he could not reject those nominated by the leadership because the struggle of the BN was to set up a government, not for the benefit of any particular individual.

Syed Razak, who is also State BN Chief, meanwhile said that in a democracy, it was natural to have many aspirants but few realised of the heavy responsibility elected representatives had to carry.

He hoped those who were not nominated would work together with other party members to ensure victory for the BN.

-- BERNAMA

SN MZM MNH ZS ABG