

14/11/2003

Pas: Polls will be held in June

KANGAR, Thurs. - Pas today claimed that the general election will likely be held in June next year to coincide with the expiry of the Sabah Legislative Assembly's term.

Party information chief Datuk Dr Harun Din said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi had said the election would be held soon.

"From my observations, I consider the statement bearing political connotations, meaning the Barisan Nasional is actually not ready and so he wants it to be prepared," Harun said at the party's headquarters in Mida, Jejawi near here.

He had earlier launched Dokumen Negara Islam (Islamic State Document), a blueprint for establishing an Islamic state which Pas had been propagating.

It was launched by Pas president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang at its national headquarters in Taman Melewar in Gombak yesterday morning.

Elections could not be held during the fasting month while floods were likely to hit in December, he said.

It could not be delayed until the term expired in November next year, he added, and therefore the likely time would be together with Sabah which could not be contested separately, and by then, the new PM might have "consolidated" himself with a deputy.

"Another main factor is the Special Branch report to the PM which will suggest the most favourable time for BN to win with a handsome majority."

On the document, Harun said 20,000 copies would be distributed to all the States and public opinion would be sought to make changes and to add "substance and reforms to make it as perfect as possible".

Harun also confirmed he would contest in Perlis in the general election.

He said he might contest the Tambun Tulang State seat currently held by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim and the Kubang Pasu parliamentary seat of Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Kedah.

"But, I am not that interested in Kubang Pasu as Dr Mahathir is no longer the Prime Minister," said Harun.