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Sabah polls: Dr M to have final say on date

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - Any decision on the proposal for the Sabah State elections to be held simultaneously with the next general election in Peninsular Malaysia rests with Umno president and Barisan Nasional chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Umno vice-president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said today Dr Mahathir would decide at the appropriate time.

Muhyiddin said this when asked to comment on a statement by Sabah Chief Minister and State Umno head Datuk Musa Aman yesterday that the State BN was prepared to have the State elections at the same time with Peninsular Malaysia.

However, Musa said the matter was left to the BN supreme council to decide.

Another Umno vice-president, Tan Sri Muhammad Muhammad Taib, said the party was prepared for the possibility, if the proposal was accepted by the BN supreme council.

"Nothing has been confirmed yet. However, I believe the State Umno and BN's machinery is well-prepared to face the possibility of having the state elections together with Peninsular Malaysia.

"We are used to the situation in Peninsular Malaysia where the State and Parliamentary elections are held together and thus there should not be much problem if a similar practice is done in Sabah."