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## EC: Elections won't be affected

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Election Commission (EC) has given the assurance that a state of emergency will not be declared in Sabah, and the 13th general election (GE13) will be held in tandem with the other states, *Berita Harian* reported on Saturday.

EC chairman Tan Sri Abdul Aziz Mohd Yusof said the situation in Lahad Datu and Semporna has improved and some schools will be reopened today.

"In terms of legislation, there is a specific provision to allow GE13 to be delayed, but the EC does not see a need to do so," he said.

He was replying to comments made by PAS Youth Chief Nasrudin Hassan Tantawi at a press conference on Saturday, stressing that a state of emergency must not be used to postpone elections in Sabah.

Nasrudin reportedly said that a state of emergency in Sabah is a government attempt to postpone GE13.

Abdul Aziz said that any such declaration would be announced by Sabah Police Commissioner Datuk Hamza Taib and not the prime minister.

He also said that he is confident that the intrusion incident has been handled well, with cooperation between the Malaysian Armed Forces and the Royal Malaysian Police.

"Based on information from officials in Sabah, conditions have improved and are under control.

"I am going to Kota Kinabalu to provide re-training of district officers in the state, including Lahad Datu and Semporna," he said. — By Song Boon Mun



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