

PRS: Fulfil promises before GE
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By Sulok Tawie

KUCHING (Aug 21, 2011): Parti Rakyat Sarawak (PRS) wants promises made in the last Sarawak State elections to be fulfilled first before holding the next general elections.

"The Barisan Nasional (BN) has made many promises in the state elections and therefore, we must make good of our promises before we can have the general elections," PRS president Tan Sri Dr James Masing said today.

Masing, who is also the Land Development Minister, said the people might think that the BN was making empty promises if it did not carry out projects pledged during the campaign in the April 16 state elections.

He believed that many projects had not been carried out by the BN government.

He said that projects which benefited the people directly should be implemented as soon as possible.

"The Opposition will also exploit the accusation to gain political mileage," he warned.

"Moreover, the feel good factor among the people is not there yet to call for an early general elections," he said.

"I hope that the federal Barisan leadership will think twice before making a decision to call for the general elections so soon," he added.

Masing, however, believed that Barisan leadership would not call for the elections this year.

"I expect the elections to be called the latest next year or in the year 2013," he said.

On his party's chance in the next election, Masing was confident that they could deliver the six parliamentary seats allocated to the party.

His confidence is based on the votes the party garnered in the last state election.

"If you add up the votes we garnered in the state election, we should have a very comfortable majority in the parliamentary election," he added.

However, the votes cast for state candidates would not necessarily be given to the parliamentary candidate, he said.

He said when the time comes the party would draw up its final list of candidates for the Chief Minister and Prime Minister to approve as they would make the final decision.

"As it stands today, there is no reason why we cannot defend all the six seats," he said.