

**BN Does Not Depend On Sabah And Sarawak To Win
Bernama
November 19, 2011**

LABUAN, Nov 19 (Bernama) -- The Barisan Nasional is not depending solely on the two states of Sabah and Sarawak to win in the next general election, but on the other states in Peninsular Malaysia as well.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said although the two states as well as Labuan had been described as fixed deposits for the BN, the coalition should be able to win back the other states that had fallen to the opposition in the last election.

"We should be able to wrestle back the other states which are now being ruled by the opposition in the next election," he said.

Muhyiddin said equal focus and attention were given to all the states including those ruled by the opposition as according to him, the BN government always adopted a fair attitude.

"We will continue to maintain our 'touch point' approach in helping the people. We want the people to know that we are caring and sincere in helping them," he said at a press conference after a one-day visit to Labuan, here today.

On the decision of Gerakan president Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon not to contest in the coming election, Muhyiddin said it would not affect the Chinese votes in the election.

"We respect the decision. It will not have any effect on us in the election. We believe he had discussed with party members. What is more important is that the party will continue to work together with BN," he said.

Earlier, he held a closed-door meeting with Labuan Umno and Barisan Nasional component parties and was briefed on the election preparation by Umno leaders.

"I'm satisfied with the briefing. The unity issue as raised in the past should not be questioned. It is alright, I do not see any problem on unity on the island," he said.

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