

**No Electoral Pact Between BN And Opposition In Kedah - Mukhriz  
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JERLUN, Sept 15 (Bernama) -- There is no pact for the Barisan Nasional (BN) to take the parliamentary seats and the opposition to take the state seats in Kedah in the next general election, Kedah Umno Liaison Committee deputy chairman Datuk Mukhriz Tun Dr Mahathir said today.

He said the BN had to dominate both the parliamentary and state seats in the state to ensure the implementation of development.

"When the BN returns to power in the state, development can be implemented well as there will be close cooperation between the state and federal governments," he told reporters at an Aidilfitri gathering in Alor Biak near here.

Speculation had been rife that the opposition parties in Kedah would allow the BN to take the parliamentary seats while retaining the state seats.

Mukhriz, who is deputy international trade and industry minister, said he had heard of the speculation but dismissed it.

He said he and other BN party leaders were working hard to enable the BN recapture Kedah without even considering who would be the menteri besar should the coalition take the state in the next general election.

On a statement by PKR strategic director Mohd Rafizi Ramli on the issue of APs, Mukhriz said the issue was manipulated by the opposition to confuse the people.

He said that if APs were abolished, there was a possibility of other payments being imposed on vehicle buyers.

Mukhriz, who is the MP for Jerlun, said the federal government through the ministry was working on reducing the prices of imported vehicles through various means.

At the event, Astro Holdings Sdn Bhd chairman Datuk Badri Masri handed over a RM50,000 contribution from Astro Kasih to the Jerlun Parliamentary Welfare Fund.

Astro Kasih is a volunteer initiative undertaken by Astro employees for the betterment and advancement of the community.

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