

**PM won't allow Parliament to dissolve automatically, says Muhyiddin
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By Md Izwan**

KUALA LUMPUR, March 31 – Parliament will be dissolved before April 30 when the Barisan Nasional (BN) government's mandate expires to pave the way for national polls, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said today.

The deputy prime minister said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak is unlikely to allow the automatic dissolution of Parliament before calling for the 13th general elections.

"I do not think the prime minister will wait the full five years before dissolving Parliament.

"Elections will be held in the next few weeks this April," he told a news conference after gracing the Federal Territory-level Barisan 1 Malaysia gathering at Titiwangsa Stadium in the city.

Muhyiddin said he was aware that the people are restless over the election date but urged Malaysians to be patient and to carry out their duty when the time comes.

"Election won't be long... I know the people say they have been waiting, they're tired of waiting.

"But I am confident they who have been waiting for so long are impatient to mark a cross for Barisan Nasional," he said to loud cheers and applause from thousands of non-government organisation representatives who braved the earlier rain to fill the covered stadium.

The 13-member coalition's deputy chairman also reminded voters to make the right choice and not back those who would spark chaos within the country or practised racial politics.

"Choose the government that can look after the country... don't choose those who carry inverse politics, racism.

"I am not trying to scare you all, but to remind you all to not make an error," he said.

The Barisan 1 Malaysia event saw the collection of some RM100,000 in donations.

The event was also attended by Federal Territory and Urban Wellbeing Minister Raja Datuk Nong Chik Zainal Abidin and Umno information chief Datuk Ahmad Maslan.

Some 13.3 million voters, including 3,000-odd abroad, have registered to vote in what is seen as the country's most-anticipated and closely-fought general election.

The last general election was on March 8, 2008 but Najib has taken his time to dissolve Parliament.

The PM has up to April 30 before the BN's mandate automatically expires but sources have told The Malaysian Insider Parliament is likely to be dissolved soon with elections in mid-April after an 11-day formal campaign period.

Speculation on snap polls had been circulating since early 2010, a year after Najib replaced Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi to become Malaysia's sixth prime minister.

Election 2013 is seen to be the most intense race for Putrajaya as the BN faces stiff competition from the three main opposition parties that have banded together after the landmark 12th general elections to form Pakatan Rakyat.

A total 222 parliamentary seats and 505 state seats are up for grabs and both political blocs have been talking up their chances of clawing a bigger win than they has each scored in Election 2008.

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