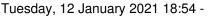
Joint Statement : Bersih, ABIM, IKRAM, KLSCAH & GBM

of elections with an emergency declaration is unjustified. If this is indeed to prevent elections,

then the discretionary royal power to withhold consent to PM's request of dissolution is

effectively removed.



arrangements would bode well for politics in this country as apart from budgetary decisions, parliamentary and other political reforms could be agreed upon.

As such, could it be that the true reason for this emergency is to suspend parliamentary democracy and disable the scrutiny of Parliament on the government, or more likely, given the ongoing schism within the Perikatan Nasional (PN) with UMNO threatening to pull out of the coalition, an attempt to halt the collapse of the Muhyiddin government.

If this is the true underlying reason, the declaration of a national emergency is not only an overkill but an abuse of Executive power that places the country at great peril in the midst of the worst health and economic crisis this country has ever faced.

We also question the capability of the Muhyiddin government in handling the pandemic and economic crisis when their legitimacy as the ruling government are being challenge almost everyday, not only from the opposition but also from within the government composition itself. So far they have shown their inability to manage the situation as compared to other countries in the region.

We call on all political parties to prioritize the national interest at this critical juncture and put aside political machinations in order to grab power. All efforts should be made to combat Covid-19, rebuild the economy and to bring about substantial political reforms that will bring about sustainable stability and level the playing field for all parties.

Statement issued by:

BERSIH 2.0, ABIM, IKRAM, KLSCAH and GBM

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