

Bahan asal dari Arkib

Negara Malaysia

Sarawak BN can resolve SNAP crisis, says PM

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that he is confident that the crisis in SNAP can be resolved without the matter being brought to the Barisan Supreme Council.

"There is a possibility that the problem can be resolved by the Sarawak Barisan Nasional without it being brought to the national level," the Prime Minister told reporters after chairing an Umno Supreme Council meeting

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir, who is Barisan chairman, said the matter would only be discussed at the Barisan Supreme Council meeting in Sarawak in September 8 if it was still not settled by then.

The crisis was triggered off by the expulsion of SNAP vice-president Daniel Tajem from the party for allegedly supporting an independent candidate in the 1981 State elections.

Three MPs and nine State Assemblymen quit SNAP in protest to form a Dayak-based party.

SNAP'S woes increased when Energy, Telecommunications and Posts Minister Datuk Leo Moggie resigned from SNAP to head the Parti Bangsa Dayak Sarawak.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the new party's application to join the Barisan would be discussed by the Supreme Council.

He had clarified two days ago that the application could only be approved if all the component parties agreed.

He reiterated that Datuk Moggie would remain a Minister and he would sit with the other Cabinet members in Parliament.