

MAHATHIR - PBDS
BM

24 P
KUALA LUMPUR, JAN 8 (BERNAMA) THE BARISAN NASIONAL SUPREME COUNCIL TODAY UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED PARTY BANSA DAYAK SARAWAK (PBDS) AS A MEMBER OF THE COALITION.

(DATUK SERI OR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD, TOLD REPORTERS AFTER THE ONE-HOUR COUNCIL MEETING HERE THAT THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PBDS IN THE BARISAN WAS PROPOSED BY PARTI PESAKA BUMIPUTERA BERSATU (PBB) AND SECONDED BY THE SARAWAK NATIONAL PARTY (SNAP).

THE SARAWAK UNITED PEOPLE'S PARTY, THE OTHER MEMBER OF THE STATE BARISAN, ALSO SUPPORTED THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PBDS IN THE COALITION, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.

THE PBDS, LED BY MINISTER OF ENERGY, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND POSTS DATUK LEO MOGGIE, WAS FORMED IN JULY LAST YEAR BY FORMER MEMBERS OF SNAP.

SNAP HAD EARLIER OPPOSED THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE PBDS IN THE BARISAN, BUT CHANGED ITS STAND AFTER THE STATE ELECTION, IN WHICH THE NEW PARTY WON SIX OF THE 14 SEATS IT CONTESTED. --. MORE 1745/11
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DATUK SERI OR MAHATHIR, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE BARISAN, SAID THE COUNCIL CONGRATULATED THE PBDS ON ITS SUCCESS AT THE POLLS.

HE ASKED WHETHER ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST SNAP BECAUSE SOME OF ITS MEMBERS HAD CONTESTED AS INDEPENDENTS AGAINST BARISAN CANDIDATES, HE SAID THE MATTER WAS NOT RAISED AT THE MEETING.

HE SAID THAT NO ACTION COULD BE TAKEN BECAUSE HE HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY OFFICIAL REPORT ON THE MATTER.

EARLIER, DATUK MOGGIE AND DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER DATUK DANIEL TAJEM, AS PRO TEM. VICE PRESIDENT OF THE PBDS, WAS CALLED INTO THE CONFERENCE ROOM AFTER THE COUNCIL HAD DECIDED TO ACCEPT THE PARTY AS A BARISAN MEMBER.

DATUK MOGGIE SAID AFTER THE MEETING THAT THE PBDS WAS GRATEFUL TO ALL BARISAN COMPONENT PARTIES FOR AGREEING TO ITS MEMBERSHIP IN THE COALITION, AND REITERATED THAT HIS PARTY UPHELD THE SAME POLICIES AND PRINCIPLES THAT THEY DID. -- BERNAMA 50/11