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Maha thir-USNO
BN EXPELS USNO

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JITRA, May 3 (Bernama) -- IJSNO has been expelled from Barisan Nasional (BN) for forming a coalition government: with the opposition Parti Bersatu Sabah.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is BN chairman, said all component parties had agreed to the expulsion.

The BN had taken a decision to expel USNO and the agreement from all component parties was a mere formality, he added.

"A decision was made earlier to expel USNO if there is agreement and now that agreement has been received, I think USNO is expelled," he told reporters after opening the Kubang Pasu district hospital here.

Replying to a question, he said there was no need for BN to convene a meeting to take the decision to expel IJSNO as a resolution on it had been made and only a date had to be fixed for the expulsion.

The question of expelling USNO, which he regarded as "a party without a stand," was a small matter and did not require any further meeting.

What was important was that the party must be expelled, he added. -- more

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Mahathir-USNO 2 Jitra

Commenting on the show cause letters reported to have been sent to the six former USNO State Assemblymen who joined Umno, Dr Mahathir said there was no need for them to reply as they were no longer in USNO.

"People outside UMNO have no business whatsoever to ask Umno members about anything," he added.

On the possibility that the former USNO members could be expelled from the Sabah State Legislative Assembly, he said: "This is the injustice promised by the PBS government.

"Under normal circumstances, they cannot expel members of the assembly for such an action unless it was decided by others... a court for instance.

"But, they make a decision themselves as they are in the majority. I think if that is the case, BN can expel all PBS members in Parliament... also the DAP, PAS... where is democracy?"

If the six State Assemblymen were expelled from the State Legislative Assembly BN could resort to the courts, he added.

Commenting on the application by Parti Bansa Dayak Sarawak (PBDS) to rejoin BN in Sarawak, Dr Mahathir said it was up to the state BN to decide.

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Mahathir-USNO 3 (last) Jitra

PBDS was a BN member at federal level and it was up to the state BN to decide whether to accept PBDS or not, he added.

PBDS president Datuk Leo Moggie said in Kuching yesterday the party sent a letter to Sarawak Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud on March 29 conveying its decision to re-join the state BN. -- Bernama