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Mahathir-Sabah

UMNO WILL NOT CHALLENGE PROVISION FOR NOMINATED MEMBERS

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KUALA LUMPUR, March 4 (Bernama) -- Umno will not challenge the provision in the Sabah State Constitution which provides for the appointment of six nominated members to the state assembly, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight.

The Prime Minister said the decision was made by Umno supreme council at its meeting here today.

"We have no intention to challenge the provision ( for six noiminated members) in court," he told reporters after chairing the meeting at Umno headquarters here.

Chairman of Sabah Umno Tan Sri Sakaran Dandai was reported to have said recently that " if there is an opportunity to challenge the provision in court, then Sabah Umno will do it."

Dr Mahathir, who is Umno President, said Umno members and leaders responsible for frustrating Umno's chances in the recent Sabah election would be brought before the disciplinary committee.--more

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Mahathir-Sabah 2 Kuala Lumpur

In the election, the Barisan Nasional (BN) won 23 of the 48 seats contested while the Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) collected 25 seats. Of the BN's 23 seats, 18 went to Umno.

Dr Mahathir also said that the supreme council had expressed full support for the government's action to stop giving contracts to British firms following unfounded allegations made by the British media against Malaysian leaders.

The Umno President also named the following as the deputy Umno liaison chiefs for their respective states.

They are Azmi Khalid (Perlis), Datuk Zakaria Said (Kedah), Datuk Dr Ibrahim Saad (Pulau Pinang), Datuk Annuar Musa (Kelantan), Datuk Abu Hassan Omar (Selangor), Datuk Sulaiman Mohamed (federal territory), Datuk Nasir Manap (Melaka), Datuk Khalid Yunus (Negeri Sembilan), Datuk Mohamed Rahmat (Johor), Datuk Dr Yusof Noor (Terengganu), Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik (Pahang) dan Datuk Mohamad Arshad Abdullah (Perak).

He also announced the appointment of Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim as chairman of the Umno economic bureau. Anwar is also Umno Deputy President and Finance Minister.

Others appointed are Youth and Sports Minister Haji Abdul Ghani Othman (chairman of education bureau), Public Enterprises Minister Datuk Dr Yusof Noor (religion), Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik (human resources) and Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar (consumer affairs).

Dr Mahathir said the annual meeting of Umno branches would be held from May 1 to June 30 while that of divisions would be determined after the Election Commission had completed the process of delineation of electoral boundaries.

"The date for the Umno general assembly for 1994 will be announced later," he said.

Dr Mahathir also said that a special Umno assembly would be held in June to amend the party's constitution.--Bernama

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