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KEDAH UMNO LIAISON COMMITTEE TO ISSUE STATEMENT ON MB'S REQUEST

ALOR SETAR, May 6 (Bernama) -- The Kedah Umno Liaison Committee will issue a statement regarding the move by Menteri Besar Tan Sri Osman Aroff to tender his resignation from the post, its secretary, Datuk Paduka Abdul Rahman Ibrahim, said today.

Osman's request to step down was announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at Parliament House today.

Dr Mahathir told reporters that he had yet to make a decision on the matter.

Abdul Rahman, who was one of the 22 Umno assemblymen who sent a memorandum to Dr Mahathir last March calling for the retention of Osman as Menteri Besar, declined to comment further.

He said that he needed to study the actual situation first.

The 22 assemblymen also objected to former federal minister Datuk Seri Sanusi Junid as the successor should Dr Mahathir decide to appoint a new Menteri Besar. Sanusi is currently the state assemblyman for Kuah.

Tanjung Dawai Assemblyman Badri Yunus, who was also one of the 22 assemblymen, said that he would abide by Dr Mahathir's decision on the matter.

Kedah Umno Youth head Ahmad Lebai Sudin said that the movement upholds the resolution to give full mandate to Dr Mahathir to make a decision on the issue.

He said that the movement decided at a meeting on March 28 that it was the prerogative of the Umno president to decide on the appointment of the Menteri Besar and would abide by his decision. -- BERNAMA

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