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Kedah-MB

KEDAH UMNO WILL SUPPORT WHOEVER IS MADE MENTERI BESAR

KUALA LUMPUR, May 10 (Bernama) -- Kedah Umno will support whoever is appointed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as the new Menteri Besar for Kedah, its liaison secretary Datuk Abdul Rahman Ibrahim said today.

"We're suppose to support whoever he appoints," he told reporters at the main gate to the Prime Minister's Department after meeting Dr Mahathir here.

On the meeting, he said they discussed various matters and issues.

Asked whether the Menteri Besar issue was raised, he said: "The appointment of the Menteri Besar is the prerogative of the Prime Minister. We just support."

He said the Prime Minister naturally had heard the views presented by State Executive Councillors and state assemblymen who met him for the past few days.

Abdul Rahman was confident that the Prime Minister would consider the views expressed for the sake of the country and Kedah.

Asked on Tan Sri Osman Aroff who tendered his resignation letter, he said: "Leaders come and go. The important thing is Kedah must progress. Whoever becomes the Menteri Besar, he must have his own vision."

To a question whether there was now a change in the stand among Kedah assemblymen pertaining to Osman's successor other than Datuk Seri Sanusi Junid, he said:

"There's no change of stand. We didn't oppose the PM then. We asked to meet him and he agreed to discuss and hear our views.

"... Now that we have met, we talked. It's normal thing, like father and son."

Asked whether they would support Sanusi, he said: "We've never said that we would not cooperate with anyone."

On those having reservations about Sanusi, he said: "We don't have to talk about it. The important thing is we were able to speak to the PM."

He also said they did not make any suggestions to the Prime Minister as to who should be appointed as the Menteri Besar.

"The PM can choose anyone. We will support. It's the prerogative of the PM," he said.

On the Umno situation in Kedah after the announcement by Dr Mahathir that Osman had tendered his resignation letter, Abdul Rahman said: "It's as usual. Umno must continue to exist, to remain strong. The duty of party members is to strengthen Umno ... We don't have members wanting to destroy the party."

--BERNAMA

SJA ABG