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BN-Yong

MAHATHIR BRIEFED ON LAST MONDAY'S BN SABAH MEETING

KOTA KINABALU, Jan 13 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has been briefed on the Sabah Barisan Nasional (BN) meeting held last Monday which discussed the question of rotation of the Chief Minister's post.

Acting Chief Minister Datuk Yong Teck Lee, who chaired the meeting, said today Dr Mahathir offered advise "generally applicable to Sabah" during their meeting in Kuala Lumpur on Thursday.

"It is a general warm advise to ensure Sabah BN components work together for their well-being," he told reporters after opening the 4th joint Rotary District 3300 and 3310 conference here.

The rotation of the post of Chief Minister once every two years among the Muslim Bumiputera, Non-Muslim Bumiputera and the Chinese, was mooted by Dr Mahathir in February last year on the eve of the state elections which saw Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) retain power by a slim majority.

Defections in the wake of the state elections forced PBS to relinquish power to BN about a month later.

Yong said Sabah BN had yet to decide on the date for its next meeting to further discuss the issue as last Monday's meeting failed to reach any decision whether to pursue the rotation or scrap the idea.

Asked if there would be another state BN meeting before Chief Minister Datuk Salleh Said Keruak resumed duties on Feb 22, after a month-long leave, Yong said no decision was made.

He said the issue was discussed informally previously but last Monday's meeting was the first time the state BN "really sat down and talked about the matter." -- BERNAMA