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Mahathir-MB

NEW KEDAH MB MAY BE SWORN IN ON WEDNESDAY

KUALA LUMPUR, May 11 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today hinted that the new Kedah Menteri Besar might be sworn in on Wednesday.

"Wait till Wednesday ..." he said when asked by reporters to confirm whether the new Menteri Besar would take his oath of office on that day.

"... if it doesn't happen, then it's not true," he added at a news conference after the close of the Umno 50th Anniversary Convention at Putra World Trade Centre.

Dr Mahathir was also asked to comment on speculations that Kuah assemblyman Datuk Seri Sanusi Junid would be appointed to replace Tan Sri Osman Aroff who tendered his resignation as Menteri Besar.

The Prime Minister neither deny the possibility nor elaborated on it.

Speculations on the date of appointment of the new Kedah Menteri Besar have heightened following the series of meetings Dr Mahathir has had with groups of Kedah assembly members from Umno since his announcement on Monday that Osman had submitted his resignation letter to him.

On the expected appointment of Sabah Progressive Party (Sapp) president Datuk Yong Teck Lee as the new Sabah Chief Minister, the Prime Minister said no date had been fixed.

Dr Mahathir, who met Yong this afternoon, said: "As we know, Datuk Yong has a court case and (let's) wait for the case to be settled."

He said it would then be known whether Yong would qualify to be Chief Minister or otherwise.

Yong is being tried in a magistrate's court for alleged involvement in an illegal procession and faced being disqualified as a state assemblyman if convicted. -- BERNAMA

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