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Mahathir-MB

NO PROBLEM IN THE APPOINTMENT OF KEDAH MB

KUALA LUMPUR, June 4 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he has no problem in appointing the new Kedah Menteri Besar to succeed Tan Sri Osman Aroff.

However, the Prime Minister said he had not made any decision on the appointment so far.

"There's no problem. Just be patient," he told reporters after officiating the Consumers Day 1996 and launching the "Comfortable Family Life" competition at the Dewan Maktamar, Pusat Islam, here today.

Dr Mahathir was questioned whether there was any problem as to cause a delay in the appointment of the Kedah Menteri Besar following his decision to accept Osman's resignation.

On his return from a working visit abroad two weeks ago, the Prime Minister said he had accepted Osman's resignation but had not made a decision on the latter's successor.

Earlier, Osman, when questioned by reporters, said that the Prime Minister had asked him to resign because he (Dr Mahathir) wanted to appoint former Agriculture Minister, Datuk Seri Sanusi Junid, as the new Kedah Menteri Besar.

To a question today when should Sanusi take his oath of office as the Kedah Menteri Besar, Dr Mahathir replied in jest: "I don't hear anything at all, he has not informed me."

At the height of the issue over Osman's resignation, 22 Kedah state assemblymen had sent a memorandum to Dr Mahathir stating that they did not want any change in the state's leadership and urged that Osman be retained.

However, after the Prime Minister had met all the assemblymen and members of parliament from Kedah, they had left it up to Dr Mahathir to make whatever decision and that they would abide by it. -- BERNAMA

AH AO