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Constitution

SABAH CABINET MINISTERS GET PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

KOTA KINABALU, March 28 (Bernama) -- The preliminary report on proposed amendments to the Sabah state constitution has been submitted to members of the state Cabinet for their scrutiny.

Chief Minister Datuk Salleh Said Keruak said today this was done to obtain feedback on the report before it was tabled in the weekly state cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

"However, we are not sure when the report will be discussed at the federal cabinet level as the federal government is still awaiting the views of federal Attorney-General Datuk Mohtar Abdullah," he told reporters after presenting the Guinness Effort Award to Daniel Asni, 16, from Kampung Tengiling, Menggatal, near here.

Daniel won the award for his bravery in saving three boys from a fire which razed their village last year.

Salleh said he received the interim report from the state Attorney-General Datuk Stephen Foo and had asked him to refer the matter to Mohtar for his views.

Asked to comment on the contents of the report, he reiterated the assurance he made previously that the proposed amendments did not touch on the rights of Sabah and the 20-point Malaysia Agreement, a condition for Sabah's entry into Malaysia.

The amendments took into account all aspects including ways to strengthen the existing state cabinet system based on collective responsibility.

"Although this matter is under the state government's jurisdiction, we feel the matter ought to be referred to the federal Attorney-General for his advice and comments," he added.

Salleh said he would brief Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on the amendments soon. -- BERNAMA

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