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Taib-S46

S'WAK BN WELCOMES MOVE TO DISSOLVE S46

KUCHING, Aug 20 (Bernama) -- Sarawak Barisan Nasional (BN) welcomes move to dissolve Parti Melayu Semangat 46 (S46) to enable its members to join Umno.

State BN Chief Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud said it was a good move for the Malay struggle.

It would strengthen Umno and in turn strengthen the BN, he told reporters after chairing the Sarawak BN meeting here last night.

S46 President Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah had announced Sunday that the party's supreme council had decided to dissolve the seven-year-old party and that all its 400,000 members should join Umno in the name of Malay unity.

An extraordinary general meeting would be held on Oct 6 in Kuala Lumpur to obtain the mandate from S46 delegates for the dissolution.

Taib, who is Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu (PBB) President, said he would submit the full list of the BN candidates for the seventh Sarawak state election to the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the BN chairman.

Nominations have been fixed for Aug 27 and polling for two days from Sept 7. A total of 62 seats will be contested, including six new ones.

Asked to comment on the move by SNAP senior vice-president Dr Patau Rubis to leave the party and join the Sarawak Reformation Party (STAR), he said Dr Patau he was being disloyal to the party.

-- BERNAMA

AHM ABG