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Adut-Umno

ADUT SIGOH LEAVES UMNO FOR PBRIS

KOTA KINABALU, Oct 10 (Bernama) -- Nabawan assemblyman Datuk Haji Adut Sigoh has left Umno to join Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah (PBRIS), another Barisan Nasional (BN) component party, in a move to strengthen the state BN.

Adut, an influential Murut community leader, also brought with him some 3,000 supporters, most of whom former Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) members, to join PBRIS.

He submitted the application forms to PBRIS Pensiangan division chairman Ellron Alfred Angin at PBRIS headquarters here witnessed by PBRIS president Datuk Joseph Kurup, party adviser Datuk Dr Herman Luping and senior party leaders.

Adut, who is also former State Welfare Services Minister in the PBS government, said he joined PBRIS to strengthen BN and to fulfil his supporters' request.

" I hope Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will not be offended with my move to leave Umno and join PBRIS.

" I did so purely to enhance the support of the Murut community to the State BN, " he said.

He said he tendered his resignation letter as an Umno member to Sabah Umno Liaison Committee secretary Datuk Yahya Husin and Nabawan Umno division office yesterday.

Asked on the statement by state BN secretary Datuk Karim Bujang yesterday that his move to join PBRIS could tarnish the BN's image, Adut said he did not think so but instead strengthen BN.

" My move will also reduce PBS' membership," he said.

Meanwhile, Kurup, who is Deputy Chief Minister, said he welcomed Adut and his supporters into PBRIS.

He said their applications would be considered at the party's supreme council meeting which would be held soon.

Kurup also said he would seek the views of other State BN leaders on the defection. --BERNAMA

KG HAR TS