

04 JUN 1998

Anwar - Osu

OFFICIAL:OSU SUKAM SABAH DEPUTY CM FROM MONDAY

KUALA LUMPUR, June 4 (Bernama) -- Datuk Osu Sukam will assume duties as Sabah's new Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister from Monday, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said today.

Osu's replacement as federal Land and Cooperative Development Minister will be decided by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Anwar told reporters at the Treasury here.

"The prime minister has agreed that Osu Sukam takes over the post of Sabah deputy chief minister and finance minister effective Monday," Anwar said.

Reporters approached Anwar on the matter after he announced details of the soon-to-be-formed Pengurusan Dana Harta Nasional (Danaharta) which is to function as an asset management company.

Anwar said Osu is to tender his resignation as a federal minister on Monday.

Asked who would succeed Osu as Land and Cooperative Development Minister, Anwar said: "It's the sole prerogative of the prime minister."

Dr Mahathir, who is currently on a working visit to Japan, is scheduled to return home tomorrow.

Osu, 49, will be filling the post left vacant by Datuk Ghapur Salleh who declined to be reappointed.

Osu is the Sabah Umno liaison chairman and Member of Parliament for Papar. He is also the state assemblyman for Kawang and a member of the Umno Supreme Council.

He was appointed Land and Cooperative Development Minister in 1994 succeeding Tan Sri (now Tun) Sakaran Dandai, who was made Sabah chief minister then.

Osu retained the Cabinet portfolio after the 1995 general election. He had also served as Deputy Housing and Local Government Minister and Deputy Works Minister before.

Osu will be one of three deputy chief ministers in the Cabinet of newly-appointed Chief Minister Tan Sri Bernard Dompok.

-- BERNAMA

ARA rn