

05/06/1998

Osu to be deputy CM of Sabah

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has given his approval to the appointment of Land and Cooperative Development Minister Datuk Osu Sukam as Sabah deputy chief minister and finance minister, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said yesterday.

Osu will take up the new appointment on Monday.

"He (Osu Sukam) will resign from his present portfolio before Monday," Anwar said in Kuala Lumpur yesterday at a press conference on the Asset Management Co.

He was asked to comment on a news report on Osu's resignation as a federal minister to enable him to join the Sabah Cabinet.

Anwar said Dr Mahathir, who is also Barisan Nasional (BN) chairman, will decide on Osu's successor as land and cooperative development minister.

"It is the Prime Minister's prerogative to name the successor."

Bername reports: Datuk Osu Sukam said he is returning to state politics to strengthen the BN for the next election in Sabah.

"This is what the party leadership wants after taking into account what has happened and an important duty in the interests of the party and Sabah," he said at his office at Wisma Tanah in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

He said he will make full use of his 12 years' experience at the federal level, including four as a Cabinet minister.

"This is an invaluable experience and I will use it for the interests of not only Umno but also BN and the people of Sabah."

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