

23 SEP 1998

Ramli-BN

PERAK BN PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR DR MAHATHIR

IPOH, Sept 23 (Bernama) -- The Perak Barisan Nasional (BN) today pledged full support for Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as Prime Minister and BN chairman.

Menteri Besar Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib said the pledge, made by all 23 BN division chiefs in the state, in a meeting at his official residence here, would be sent to Dr Mahathir.

They also expressed support for actions that had been and would be taken by Dr Mahathir on matters involving former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim who had been detained under the Internal Security Act (ISA).

Ramli, who is also Perak BN chief, said he briefed the state BN leaders on the events leading to Anwar's expulsion from the government and party, and urged them to pass on the information to grassroots members in their divisions.

Asked whether Perak Umno Youth head Jamal Nasir Rasdi did not support the "no confidence" resolution adopted by the Umno Youth against its chief Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi as he (Jamal Nasir) did not sign the resolution yesterday, Ramli said Jamal Nasir did not attend the State Umno Youth meeting due to a miscommunication on the venue of the meeting.

He said Jamal Nasir would sign the resolution at the Umno Youth executive council meeting tomorrow.

Asked on the gathering held by Anwar's supporters in Taiping yesterday which was dispersed by the police, he urged the people not to attend such illegal assemblies.

Ramli said the State BN meeting also discussed preparations for the general election and ways to revive the economy.

-- BERNAMA

LAT TS