

25 JUN 1998

Kasitah-Reaction

SABAH LEADERS WELCOME APPOINTMENT OF KASITAH AND DAIM

KOTA KINABALU, June 25 (Bernama) -- Political leaders in Sabah today welcomed the appointment of Tan Sri Kasitah Gaddam as Land and Cooperative Development Minister to succeed Datuk Osu Sukam who has joint the state cabinet.

Chief Minister Tan Sri Bernard Dompok said Kasitah's appointment would help intensify development for the people in particular those in the rural areas.

"He is the right choice and being from the rural himself, he will understand better the aspirations of the people," he said when commenting on Kasitah's appointment which was announced by the Prime Minister's Department yesterday.

Kasitah was sworn in as a senator today before taking up the ministerial post.

He said Kasitah had vast administrative experience and the state government would give full cooperation to him.

Osu, who is Sabah Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister, also welcomed the appointment of Kasitah, saying that Sabah Umno had confidence in Kasitah's ability in discharging his national duties.

"We are sure that the Prime Minister (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad) has taken into account all factors before appointing him," he said.

Another Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Joseph Kurup said Kasitah's appointment would help to intensify efforts in the development of land.

Akar Bersatu president Datuk Pandikar Amin Mulia, who is also Sabah Agriculture and Fisheries, said: "I believe that with his past experience at the federal level, he could provide the best service."

Meanwhile, Osu also welcomed the appointment of Tun Daim Zainuddin as Minister with Special Functions in the Prime Minister's Department.

He said Daim could help rehabilitate the country's economy and boost the confidence of the people.

Wanita Umno Chief Datuk Dr Siti Zaharah Sulaiman in welcoming Daim's appointment said any efforts aimed at resolving the current economic downturn were welcomed by the movement.

--BERNAMA

JS KG ABG