

27 MAY 1998

DOMPOK TAKES OVER STATE BN CHAIRMANSHIP

KOTA KINABALU, May 27 (Bernama) -- Chief Minister-designate Tan Sri Bernard Dompok today officially took over the chairmanship of the state Barisan Nasional (BN) from outgoing Chief Minister Datuk Yong Teck Lee.

The handing over of duties was held at a simple ceremony, attended by BN component leaders, at the state BN operation room in Putatan near here, where Dompok pledged to continue what Yong had left off.

"Datuk Yong had institutionalised the state BN like never before, and what is for me to do is to carry out what he had prepared," he said.

He said that he expected the same rapport and support Yong enjoyed to be extended to him.

Dompok, who is Tourism and Environment Minister and also president of Kadazandusun-based Parti Demokratik Sabah (PDS), would be sworn in as the state 11th Chief Minister before the Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Sakaran Dandai tomorrow, under the unique rotation system of the post between the three major communities here.

Dompok also thanked Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for his confidence in him to lead the state BN and hence the Chief Ministership, during which he would preside over the state election which should be held any time during the next 10 months or so.

-- BERNAMA

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