

16/03/1999

Osu the right person to lead State, say leaders

SHAH ALAM, Mon. - Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today said that Datuk Osu Sukam was the right choice for the post of Sabah Chief Minister.

Najib said Osu had the calibre and experience to lead and carry out his duties besides implementing and fulfilling the promises made to the people by the Barisan Nasional during the election campaign.

"The people of Sabah have given the mandate for Barisan Nasional to rule the State and who could be more appropriate to be the chief minister than Osu who has experience as deputy chief minister and finance minister."

Najib said Osu who was the former Land and Co-operative Development Minister in Peninsular Malaysia would definitely know how to successfully implement the policies of the Barisan Government in Sabah.

"I am confident that Osu will not let down the Sabah peoples' trust and confidence in Barisan Nasional," he told reporters after witnessing the Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony between Institut Teknologi Mara and ITM affiliated colleges with Scottish Knowledge at Intekma Resort and Convention Centre today.

As for the rotation system, Najib said the Barisan Nasional under the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would keep its promises made to the people of Sabah.

Osu who stood in Kawang polled 7,017 votes, a majority of 2,213 votes defeating Datuk Ariaah Tengku Ahmad (PBS) who obtained 4,804 votes, Pengiran Othman Rauf (Setia) (117 votes) and Mohd Kanit Omar (Bersekutu) (282 votes) and Sajit Singh @ Patrick Singh (independent) (49 votes).

In Penang, Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon said given Osu's wide experience at both Federal and State levels of Government, he was amply qualified for the heavy responsibilities of being Sabah Chief Minister.

In welcoming Osu's appointment, Koh said he had known Osu for many years and had developed a good working relationship with him.

"I look forward to continue working with him in his new capacity, to further strengthen the economic and social relations between the States of Penang and Sabah for the benefit of people in both States," he said.

Koh also pledged to extend his full support and co-operation to Osu, as he had with Osu's Barisan Nasional predecessors.

"I would also like to wish former Sabah Chief Minister Tan Sri Bernard Dompok all the best in his endeavours. I am sure the BN will continue to enjoy the benefits of his vast experience," he said.

Deputy Defence Minister Datuk Dr Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said Osu's appointment as the new Sabah Chief Minister was appropriate as Umno had won all the 24 seats it contested in the election.

"His ability in bringing success as Sabah Umno head is proof of his experience and the wide exposure which he had gained as Minister and Deputy Minister at Federal level."

Abdullah Fadzil, a former Umno supreme council member who is Bukit Gantang Member of Parliament, also hoped all quarters especially the Barisan Nasional component parties, would give Osu full support and co-operation to enable the coalition to bring more development to Sabahans.

In Malacca, Chief Minister Datuk Seri Abu Zahar Isnin, who is also State Umno liaison chief, expressed support for Osu's appointment as the new Sabah Chief Minister.

Describing it as timely and most appropriate, he said Osu, who is also

Sabah Umno liaison chief, had proved himself.
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