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Sabbaruddin

SABBARUDDIN DENIES POOR HEALTH FORCING HIM TO QUIT CABINET

SHAH ALAM, May 18 (Bernama) -- Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Seri Sabbaruddin Chik said he is healthy and denied suggestions linking his future in the Cabinet to his supposedly poor health.

"Please stop asking about my health. I thank the many people who are concerned about my health but I'm healthy. But if you keeping asking me about my health, I may eventually fall ill," he said.

He quashed talk of a Cabinet reshuffle involving him and a few other Umno ministers as mere speculation by the Press.

He said it was a known fact that only Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has prerogative over the matter.

Sabbaruddin was speaking to reporters who approached him on newspaper reports this week that several Umno ministers, including him, would be dropped from the cabinet soon.

Sabbaruddin said no one could correctly guess what was on the prime minister's mind apart from making mere speculation.

Earlier, he launched the "Fun Trail Grand Slam 1999" treasure hunt organised by Pacific Hotels and Resort here today.

Sabbaruddin said he did know how the speculated cabinet reshuffle came about and it was linked to his poor health.

He said he did not recall making any statement on the matter.

Sabbaruddin said he was healthy enough to carry out his official duties as normal such as chairing his ministry's weekly meeting yesterday and keeping his date to officiate at today's function.

-- BERNAMA

AZH RYN