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Taib-Mahathir

TAIB TO CONSULT DR MAHATHIR ON PBB CANDIDATES

KUCHING, Oct 9 (Bernama) -- Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud said today he would consult Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on the candidates to be fielded by Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu (PBB) in the coming general election.

Until then, he did not wish to say anything on the matter.

He was also non-committal over the exclusion of Defence Minister Datuk Abang Abu Bakar Mustapha as a candidate.

"I will not confirm or deny it...normally I do not make the decision," he told reporters when asked to comment on the party's supreme council decision to drop Abang Abu Bakar.

In its meeting on Monday, the council also decided to drop several other incumbents to be replaced with younger candidates.

The PBB Matu Daro Youth Division in the Kuala Rajang parliamentary constituency represented by Abang Abu Bakar for four terms had passed a resolution urging the party leadership to drop him.

It claimed that the federal minister had not serve his constituents effectively.

Meanwhile, Abang Abu Bakar's press secretary Ali Zulfakar Zainal said in Kuala Lumpur yesterday that the minister would continue to discharge his responsibilities and commitments as a BN representative.

He said Abang Abu Bakar had given his best as a Member of Parliament and would carry on with his duties without delving into the question of his political future.

-- BERNAMA

CJ TS