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WE HAVE A FAIR IDEA OF THE DATE FOR SABAH ELECTION- OSU SUKAM

KOTA KINABALU, Jan 16 (Bernama) -- Sabah Barisan Nasional leaders led by Chief Minister Tan Sri Bernard Dompok have emerged from a meeting with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Kuala Lumpur "with a fair idea of the date for the Sabah election."

However asked about the exact date for the dissolution of the Sabah Assembly, Deputy Chief Minister and Sabah Umno Chief Datuk Osu Sukam said, "That you have to ask the Chief Minister."

"We have a fair idea," he said on his return here from Kuala Lumpur after the meeting with Dr Mahathir.

Asked whether the Haj season in March had been considered in determining the dissolution of the State Assembly, Osu said, "All these had been considered."

Osu, who is also Sabah Finance Minister, said the date for the dissolution of the Sabah Assembly should no longer be an issue at this point of time as its term was already set to expire on March 18.

What was important was preparations to face the elections, he added.

Osu said as chairman of Sabah Umno, he was also satisfied over matters relating to the allocation of seats among the State BN component parties, which was among the things discussed at this morning's nearly two-hour meeting with Dr Mahathir at the Prime Minister's Department.

Dompok is the President of Parti Demokratik Sabah (PDS) and Chairman of the Sabah BN. Other State BN leaders who attended the meeting were President of the Sabah Progressive Party (SAPP) Datuk Yong Teck Lee, President of the Angkatan Keadilan Rakyat (Akar), Datuk Pandikar Amin Mulia, President of the Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah (PBRs) Datuk Joseph Kurup, President of the Liberal Democratic Party Datuk Chong Kah Kiat, Sabah MCA Chairman Datuk Chau Tet On, Sabah Gerakan Acting Chairman Tan Sri Soon Siew Hong and Sabah MIC Chairman V.Jothi.

-- BERNAMA

JS AAM