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`Affirmation will enable performance of duties'

KOTA KINABALU, Tues. - The six Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah (PBRS) Assemblymen will be able to perform their duties effectively now that their positions in the State Legislative Assembly had been affirmed by Speaker Datuk Hassan Alban Sandukong.

PBRS president Tan Sri Joseph Kurup said today the decision meant that the Assemblymen would be more confident in discharging their work. The Assemblymen are Datuk Dr Jeffrey Kitingan (Bingkor), Johnny Goh Chin Lok (Inanam), Louis Rampas (Kiulu), Edward Linggu Bukut (Tamparuli), Karim Adam (Kundasang) and Atong Mangabis (Matunggong).

They left PBS on April 23 to join PBRS, one of the nine Barisan Nasional component parties in Sabah.

On July 19, PBS president Datuk Seri Joseph Pairin Kitingan submitted to the Speaker the six letters of resignation as Assemblymen.

The Speaker met the Assemblymen on July 26 and yesterday held that the six are still Assemblymen as during the meeting they denied that they intended to vacate their respective seats.

Kurup said the Speaker's decision was expected as PBRS had accepted the Assemblymen as members of the party. "The Prime Minister (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad) had also announced the acceptance of the six as BN assemblymen," he said when contacted here.

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