

31/07/2000

Most Sabah folk against CM rotation system

KOTA KINABALU, Sun. - The majority of the people of Sabah do not want the Chief Minister's post to be rotated as development plans are usually hampered due to the system.

However, some political leaders from Barisan Nasional component parties in Sabah want the system to be continued, to enable them to become the next Chief Minister.

Sabah Umno secretary Datuk Yahya Hussin said the people of Sabah, Umno and even opposition Parti Bersatu Sabah wanted the system to be scrapped.

"But some politicians want the system to be continued as they wish to become Chief Minister," he told reporters after officiating at the Kemas kindergarten sports day at Tanjung Aru beach, near here, today.

Yahya, who is Local Government and Housing Minister, said everytime a new Chief Minister was appointed under the system, administrative policies also changed.

He was asked to comment on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement on Friday that it was up to the people of Sabah if they wanted the system to be continued or not.

During his three-day visit to Sabah last week, Dr Mahathir said when he first mooted the idea in 1994, there were no objections to it.

Since the BN came to power in Sabah in 1994, Tun Sakaran Dandai, Datuk Salleh Said, Datuk Yong Teck Lee and Tan Sri Bernard Dompok had been appointed Chief Minister under the rotation system.

After the State election in March last year, Datuk Osu Sukam was appointed Chief Minister.

(END)