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Osu: No plans to reshuffle State Cabinet

KOTA KINABALU, Tues. - Chief Minister Datuk Seri Osu Sukam has no plans to reshuffle the State Cabinet and also denied that there was a split in Sabah Umno.

"My Cabinet is just over a year old, we are not going to reshuffle," he told newsmen who had waited at the Kota Kinabalu International Airport for his return from Kuching last night.

The Press was waiting for an important announcement given that Osu had met Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Kuching.

This was further sparked off by reports in the local newspapers yesterday of a denial by Umno secretary and Local Government and Housing Minister Datuk Yahya Hussin of an imminent revamp in the State Cabinet.

Yahya also denied that Sabah Umno was in disarray.

Meanwhile Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Lajim Ukin denied any rift with Osu.

Speaking to reporters on arrival from a trip to Indonesia last night, Lajim said: "I am giving 100 per cent support to Osu as Chief Minister and Sabah Umno head."

Osu confirmed that while in Kuching he had met the Prime Minister but did not discuss politics.

Until late last night there were rumours that Osu would be taking up a Federal posting to make way for a State Cabinet reshuffle, which was vehemently denied by him.

Asked why he called for the late night Press conference, Osu said: "I am happy that one more hostage from Sabah held by kidnappers in Jolo Island has been released. We hope all the others will be freed soon."

On the rumours of a Cabinet revamp, Osu said: "The rumours, if any, were probably started by those who were unhappy with the Barisan Nasional Government."

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