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Bernamea-Kadir

UP TO GOVERNMENT TO PRIVATISE BERNAMA, TV2, ETC, SAYS LEMBARAN BUDI

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 13 (Bernama) -- The decision whether to privatise Bernama, TV2, Finas, Filem Negara and four radio stations, which are all under the Information Ministry, is entirely up to the government, said Lembaran Budi Sdn Bhd director Datuk Abdul Kadir Jasin.

"It is up to the government," he told reporters after inaugurating Berita Publishing Sdn Bhd's new office and launching its new logo, here today.

He said there was no development since Lembaran Budi submitted the proposal to acquire those entities to the Economic Planning Unit (EPU).

"EPU asked for a meeting three weeks ago but nothing happened after that," said Kadir who is also chairman of Bernama, the national news agency.

Kadir acquired Berita Publishing Sdn Bhd, New Straits Times Press' magazines division, in July this year. Kadir was the former group editor-in-chief of NSTP.

His associates in Lembaran Budi are Datuk Jalaluddin Bahaudin, a former press secretary to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Mohamad Ibrahim Mohamad Nor, chief executive officer of Bernas, the national rice company.

Earlier, speaking at the function, Kadir said Berita Publishing increased the circulation of its publications by 6,000 copies in August, its first month under his ownership.

"It is the hope of the new owner and new management of Berita Publishing Sdn Bhd to reshape the group into a successful independent publisher of books and magazines," he said.

Kadir said as from January 2001, Berita Publishing would publish "Going Places" the inflight magazine of Malaysia Airlines (MAS).

"This will give us an additional circulation base of 100,000," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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