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Chong-PBS

CHONG HOPES BN COMPONENTS WILL SUPPORT PBS RE-ENTRY

KOTA KINABALU, Nov 17 (Bernama) -- Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat today expressed the hope that Barisan Nasional component parties both in the state and at Federal level will support Parti Bersatu Sabah's (PBS) application to rejoin the BN.

"I hope that when the BN Supreme Council meets all component parties both at state and Federal level will welcome back the PBS into the BN," he said.

Speaking to reporters at the Kota Kinabalu International Airport here on his return from Kuala Lumpur, Chong who is Sabah BN Chairman said the BN Supreme Council was expected to meet shortly to discuss the PBS application.

The PBS which withdrew from the BN 11 years ago had officially submitted its application to rejoin the BN.

Its President Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan personally handed over the application to the Prime Minister and BN Chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Putrajaya on Thursday.

Yesterday, Dr Mahathir said a decision on the PBS application would be made before Hari Raya Aidilfitri next month.

Chong said the PBS decision to return to the BN fold showed that the party realised the importance of national unity.

"I think we all now see the need to put aside political considerations and focus instead on efforts to develop Sabah," he said.

On the proposal for all Kadazandusun and Murut-based parties to merge, Chong said it was up to these parties to decide on that.

The proposal was made by the President of the United Pasok Momogun Kadazandusun Murut Organisation Tan Sri Bernard Dompok.

Chong said the move would help enhance unity among the people provided everyone was sincere in making it a reality.

-- BERNAMA

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