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Dompok-Cabinet

DOMPOK WANTS UPKO REPS RETAINED IN NEW CABINET

KOTA KINABALU, March 18 (Bernama) -- United Pasok Momogun Kadazandusun Murut Organisation (Upko) president Tan Sri Bernard Dompok wants its two representatives in the Sabah cabinet retained in the imminent cabinet reshuffle.

"I see no reason why they should not be retained. We contested on a Barisan Nasional (BN) ticket in the 1999 state election and supported the BN government," he said.

Upko Deputy President Datuk Wilfred Bumburing and Secretary-General Datuk Wences Anggang were included in the state cabinet after the election.

Bumburing was made a deputy chief minister and Minister for Infrastructure Development while Wences was made Minister for Resource Development and Information Technology.

Party vice-president Datuk Siringan Gubat was appointed Assistant Minister for Agriculture Development and Food Industry.

"Their positions did not change since then..what has changed is the party getting stronger," he told reporters after opening the Kadazandusun Chamber of Commerce and Industry annual general meeting.

Chief Minister-designate Datuk Chong Kah Kiat said yesterday there would be "quite interesting and significant changes" in the new cabinet line-up.

Chong said he would discuss with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad next week to finalise the line-up.

Dr Mahathir announced in Kuala Lumpur on Friday that Chong would succeed Datuk Osu Sukam as the 12th Sabah Chief Minister under the rotation system.

In his speech, Dompok, who is Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, urged the Kadazandusun community particularly the entrepreneurs to be pro-active and broaden the market for their business in the face of the globalisation era.

He said the community should also support the government of the day so as not to be left out from the mainstream of development.

-- BERNAMA

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