

25/11/2001

PBS move to rejoin BN `augurs well for unity'

KOTA KINABALU, Sat. - Parti Bersatu Sabah's decision to rejoin the Barisan Nasional augurs well for efforts to unite the people and bring greater development to the State.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said PBS move would go a long way in overcoming the problem of politicking in Sabah.

"It would enable the State Government to focus on development."

Abdullah was speaking at the opening of the Liberal Democratic Sabah (LDP) 12th annual congress at the Magellan Sutera Hotel, here.

Abdullah, who is also BN deputy chairman, said the people of Sabah would stand to benefit if political stability prevailed in the State.

PBS president Datuk Seri Joseph Pairin Kitingan had last week submitted to Prime Minister and BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad the party's application to rejoin the BN which it left 11 years ago.

Pairin and eight other top PBS leaders were among the observers present at the opening of the LDP congress.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat said the State could better address socio-economic issues with the co-operation of PBS.

"The intense domestic politicking will also end once PBS is in the BN fold.

"The State Government can now concentrate on economic development instead.

"I wish to thank my colleagues in all BN component parties for their positive response."

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