

23 NOV 2001

Kasitah-PBS

PBS RE-ENTRY INTO BN AUGURS WELL FOR LASTING POLITICAL STABILITY

KOTA KINABALU, Nov 23 (Bernama) -- Party Bersatu Sabah's (PBS) intention to rejoin the ruling Barisan Nasional (BN) augurs well for lasting political stability in Sabah, Federal Minister of Land and Cooperative Development Tan Sri Kasitah Gaddam said today.

The move would strengthen national unity and ensure more socio-economic development for Sabah, he told reporters here.

"PBS president, Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan, by virtue of being the Huguang Siou or paramount leader of the Kadazandusun still commands strong support from among the non-Muslim Bumiputeras in Sabah," he said.

Kasitah was commenting on the PBS application to rejoin the BN fold after being in the opposition for 11 years.

Despite the general contention that support for the PBS was declining, the opposition party in fact still commanded significant support from among the non-Muslim Bumiputeras, especially the Kadazandusuns, the single largest ethnic community in Sabah, Kasitah said.

Kasitah, who is also Umno Kinabalu chief said, the PBS decision to rejoin the BN showed that the Sabah non-muslim community fully supported the ruling BN multiracial system.

"It also shows that there is no fear of the BN government's policies, especially the Prime Minister's recent public declaration that Malaysia is an Islamic state."

On Nov 16, Pairin handed in the party's application to rejoin the coalition to Prime Minister and BN Chief Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the latter's office in Putrajaya.

-- BERNAMA

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