

18/11/2001

Sabah BN parties to back admission

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KOTA KINABALU, Sat. - Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat expects all four Sabah-based Barisan Nasional component parties to support the readmission of Parti Bersatu Sabah to the BN.

Chong, who is State BN chairman, said he saw no reason for any of the parties to object to the PBS application to rejoin the coalition which it left 11 years ago.

"I don't see any problem (of accepting the PBS). It is for the good of everybody in Sabah because what we want is unity," he said, adding that as Sabah BN chairman he fully supported the PBS application.

Chong was speaking to reporters at the Kota Kinabalu International Airport upon his return here from Kuala Lumpur, today.

The four Sabah-based BN component parties are Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), which is headed by Chong, United Pasok Momogun Kadazandusun Organisation (Upko), Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah (PBRS) and Sabah Progressive Party (SAPP).

LDP, UPKO and PBRS have welcomed the PBS while the SAPP has been keeping mum.

SAPP president Datuk Yong Teck Lee was reported as saying that his party would only make known its stand when the BN meets to discuss the application.

PBS president Datuk Seri Joseph Pairin Kitingan had on Thursday submitted to Prime Minister and BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad the PBS application.

Dr Mahathir had said that for the PBS to be readmitted there must be a 100 per cent consensus from all the BN component parties.

Asked if the State BN would convene a meeting to discuss the application, Chong said there was no need because a central BN meeting would be called soon to deliberate on the matter.

Chong said he also hoped that all the other BN component parties will support the PBS application.

"It is necessary for all the communities to unite and work together in the interest of the nation."

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