

16 NOV 2001

Hishammuddin-PBS

SEEK VIEWS OF SABAH BN COMPONENTS BEFORE DECIDING ON PBS' RE-ENTRY

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 16 (Bernama) -- The Barisan Nasional (BN) Youth wants the application by Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) to rejoin the coalition be studied carefully including getting the views of Sabah-based component parties and Sabahans.

Its Chief Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein said it was important that the application be evaluated from all aspects as PBS had "displayed various form of politics, making it difficult to determine whether it is our friend in the coalition in good and bad times," he said.

PBS President Datuk Seri Joseph Pairin Kitingan, who pulled out the party from the coalition a week before the 1990 general election, formally handed in the party's application to rejoin the BN at a meeting with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Putrajaya yesterday.

Hishammuddin said the BN Youth welcomed the PBS's intention to return to the BN fold and if the move was done with full sincerity and without conditions attached, it would complement government's efforts to forge inter-racial unity and harmony among the people.

"PBS's move proved there is no other parties that can bring about stability, harmony and progress to the country," Hishammuddin, who is Youth and Sports Minister, said in a statement today.

He, however, said the PBS should first prove its sincerity towards the BN.

Hishammuddin said the PBS Youth "should look at themselves first" before imposing conditions prior to the party's admission into the BN.

"The youth wing's action to impose conditions for PBS's re-admission into the BN showed its shallow thinking, immaturity, unrealistic and confusing," he said.

The three conditions stipulated by the party's youth wing were for the BN to resolve identity card forgeries, the illegal immigrant problem and to clean up Sabah's electoral roll.

Hishammuddin hoped there was no ulterior motive or vested interest behind PBS's application to re-enter BN this time around.

-- BERNAMA

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