

(STAR 24 NOV 2002)

## PBS has to wait until 2004

KOTA KINABALU: Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) will have to wait until after the next state elections due in 2004 for its representatives to be appointed to the Sabah Cabinet, said Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat.

"PBS will have a good representation in the next state government," said Chong, the Sabah Barisan Nasional chairman and Liberal Democratic Party president (LDP).

The next state government would also be a better one, he said yesterday after launching a unity and leadership seminar in the northern Kudat district jointly organised by LDP and PBS.

Also present were PBS presi-

dent Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan and other senior party officials.

Chong, whose two-year rotated term of chief minister expires next March, said the present PBS leadership commanded the highest respect from Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and the Federal Cabinet.

He said he personally had a "respectful relationship" with Pairin whom he had known for more than two decades.

"PBS and LDP are among the oldest parties in Sabah and both have withstood the test of time. Today we stand tall compared to other parties, whether inside or outside Barisan," he said.