

14 JAN 2002  
Abdullah-PBS

BN COMPONENT PARTIES CAN GIVE VIEWS ON PBS' ENTRY

KOTA KINABALU, Jan 14 (Bernama) -- All Barisan Nasional (BN) component parties will have an opportunity to voice their opinion on the application by Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) to rejoin BN at its coming meeting, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

He said any decision on the matter must be unanimous.

"At the moment, there is no BN component party which opposes (the PBS application)," he told reporters after launching the 2002 Sabah Umno Information Convention, here today.

Last month, Chief Minister and Sabah BN chairman Datuk Chong Kah Kiat said BN component party leaders were expected to have a meeting this month to discuss the PBS application.

Asked when the meeting would be held, Abdullah, who is also BN deputy chairman, said it would be soon.

On the possibility of a state cabinet reshuffle, he said it was not necessary as PBS did not impose any condition when stating their intention to rejoin the coalition.

"They just want to be a member of the Barisan Nasional (BN) family, that's all... no conditions attached," said Abdullah.

On Nov 15, PBS president Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan submitted the party's application to rejoin BN to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is also BN chairman, in Putrajaya.

PBS left the BN 11 years ago before the general election in 1990.

--BERNAMA

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