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CM to brief Dr M on situation in PBRs

KOTA KINABALU, Wed. - Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat will brief Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on the leadership crisis in Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah (PBRs) during their meeting today.

"I will update the Prime Minister on the matter," Chong told newsmen at the Kota Kinabalu International Airport before leaving for Kuala Lumpur this afternoon.

Chong, who is Sabah Barisan Nasional chairman, was asked to comment on the PBRs' annual congress which ended with suspended deputy president Datuk Dr Jeffrey Kitingan being elected unopposed as the new PBRs president.

Incumbent president Tan Sri Joseph Kurup had earlier postponed yesterday's meeting to today after failing to restore order to allow the election of office-bearers.

Chong disclosed that Kurup phoned yesterday to inform him on what had happened and also asked to be excused from attending today's weekly State Cabinet meeting.

(Kurup is State Resource Development and Information Technology Minister).

"I also received a memo from Jeffrey today telling me about his (new) position," he said.

"I have to respect the party. I cannot simply meddle in their affairs when they themselves are not clear of the situation. You have to give them time."

Chong said he was monitoring the situation and would meet both Kurup and Jeffrey "at the appropriate time".

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