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Wong-Court

JAMES WONG FILES APPLICATION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW ON SNAP DEREGISTRATION

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 25 (Bernama) -- The deregistered Sarawak National Party (Snap) filed an application at the High Court here today seeking a judicial review to quash the Registrar of Societies' (ROS) decision to deregister the 41-year-old party.

Former Snap president Datuk Amar James Wong Kim Min said the application was filed by the law firm of Skrine and Co, which had been appointed by ex-Snap members.

Wong, 80, the country's oldest and longest-serving politician, said: "We now leave it to the wisdom of the court to right what we perceive to be wrong."

Snap was deregistered by ROS Datuk Ismail Dollah Harun on Nov 5 following the party's failure to resolve its leadership crisis.

Speaking to Bernama here, Wong said the application was made following requests by former Snap members at their meeting in Kuching on Nov 16, urging him to use all legal avenues to revive the party.

At the meeting, former Snap members, representing all the 62 party divisions as well as its Youth and Wanita wings, gave full mandate to Wong to appeal against the deregistration of the party and to use all legal avenues to reinstate and revive the party.

The meeting also rejected joining the newly registered Sarawak Progressive Democratic Party (SPDP) which they regarded as being responsible for the deregistration of Snap, he said.

The former members pledged to join en bloc a Barisan Nasional (BN) party of their choice if they failed in this legal process.

Asked why he did not appeal to the Home Minister as provided for under the Societies Act, Wong said they had been advised by their lawyers not to do so as it was a legal matter.

Under section 16 of the Societies Acts 1966, they have 30 days from the date of the deregistration, to appeal to the Home Minister.

Asked if he had met Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad or his deputy, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on Snap's deregistration, he replied in the negative.

-- BERNAMA

AT AHH JK