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Chong-Seats

NO PROBLEM FOR SABAH BN PARTIES TO ACCEPT ALLOCATED SEATS, SAYS CHONG

KOTA KINABALU, Aug 4 (Bernama) -- Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat said today that he does not foresee any problem within the state BN component parties with regard to the allocation of seats to their respective parties in the next general election.

Chong, who is state BN chairman, said that it was natural for any BN component parties to expect more seats allocated to them but at the end of the day, the decision of BN leadership should be respected.

"This (allocation of seats) has never been a problem in BN, when the decision is made, all have to respect that decision," he told reporters after launching the state-level Kembara Merdeka 2002 at Padang Merdeka here.

He said that the decision of the BN chairman had always been respected and abided by all component parties relating to the allocation of seats.

Chong was asked to comment on a recent call by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to BN component parties to readily accept seats allocated to their parties in the next general election.

Dr Mahathir has said that he was making the appeal at this early stage so that when he had made a decision as the BN chairman they would abide by the decision.

"In fact, no component parties would expect less but at the end of the day the spirit of compromise would have to come in and this has been proven in BN," Chong said.

On a different note, the chief minister said that the state government strongly supported the Federal Government's decision to reintroduce the use of English in the teaching of Mathematics and Science in all government schools.

However, Chong said that there was need to hear feedback from educationists and those involved in education in respect of the usage of the language in both subjects in the Chinese independent primary schools.

"I think it's important to hear from them. We don't simply make a stand on this," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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