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Rahim-PBS

RAHIM: PBS' RE-ENTRY INTO BN WILL NOT AFFECT UMNO LEADERS' POSITIONS

KOTA KINABALU, Jan 14 (Bernama) -- Parti Bersatu Sabah's (PBS) re-entry into Barisan Nasional (BN) will not affect the cabinet positions held by Sabah Umno leaders, State Umno Information chief Datuk Abdul Rahim Ismail said today.

"It's not necessary for us to compromise too much in the distribution of cabinet posts (when PBS is accepted into BN," he said when tabling the resolutions passed at the Sabah Umno Covention here.

Abdul Rahim, who is Assistant Minister to the Chief Minister, said it was enough for Umno or BN component parties to agree to PBS's re-entry into BN.

PBS president Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan had on Nov 15 personally handed in the party's application to re-join BN to Prime Minister and BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The BN supreme council is expected to meet soon to decide on the application. The Umno supreme council, in its Dec 7 meeting, had endorsed the party's application to return to the BN's fold.

Rahim also said delegates attending the convention had proposed to Sabah Umno not to nominate divisional leaders, who only advanced their personal agenda, to contest in the next general election.

"Leaders should not bring in their personal agenda into Umno's struggles," he said.

He also said the setting up of Puteri Umno was a wise move to strengthen Umno especially in facing the challenges of the new millennium.

On economy, Rahim said the state Umno wished to see more foreign investors investing in Sabah.

He said the two-year rotation of the chief minister's post practised by the BN government had brought political stability to the state, thus creating a conducive environment for investments.

The delegates also proposed to the state government to give priority to Bumiputera contractors when awarding contracts.

-- BERNAMA

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