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PBRS-Congress

PRIME MINISTER TO OPEN PBRS CONGRESS NEXT MONTH

KOTA KINABALU, April 26 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to open Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah's (PBRS) Eighth Annual Congress next month.

PBRS president Tan Sri Joseph Kurup said today the Youth and Wanita congress would take place on May 15 while the congress proper would be held the following day at the Keningau Community Hall, about 170km from here.

It would be attended by about 400 delegates, he told reporters after hosting a lunch for the media, here.

Kurup, who is state Youth and Sports Minister, Dr Mahathir had visited Tenom, a neighbouring district of Keningau, in 2001.

"Now the locals are eager to meet the prime minister once again and I expect them to turn up at the congress to greet Dr Mahathir," he said.

He said the congress would deliberate on amendments to the party constitution to plug loopholes following a leadership crisis early last year when delegates to the seventh congress elected Kurup and Datuk Dr Jeffrey Kitingan as "PBRS president".

The crisis has been resolved and Dr Jeffrey sacked from the party.

In his speech, Kurup announced the establishment of an award to recognise the role of the media in the development of the youth in the state, in addition to the Best Sports Writers which has been going on for several years.

The Sabah State Youth Development Writers Award will be held on May 30 this year in conjunction with the Youth Day which falls on June 12.

Kurup said the media had an important role to play in shaping public opinion as well as in educating the youth on the importance of having high moral and being trustworthy and competitive in facing challenges.

-- BERNAMA

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