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Snap-BN

SNAP HAS APPLIED TO REJOIN BARISAN NASIONAL

KUCHING, Aug 24 (Bernama) -- The Sarawak National Party (Snap) has submitted its application to rejoin the Barisan Nasional (BN) to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohammad, its president, Edwin Dundang, said today.

"This is in accordance with the prime minister's advice when a Snap delegation that I led met him in his office in Putrajaya on July 9 2003," he said.

The application was submitted to Dr Mahathir, who is also the BN chairman, a day after the meeting, he told Bernama here.

He called on Snap members throughout Sarawak to be patient and to trust their leaders.

He was referring to newspaper reports today quoting BN secretary-general Tan Sri Mohamed Rahmat as saying that although the party had gained a temporary respite from being deregistered because of a stay of execution granted by the court, Snap still had to re-apply if it wanted to rejoin the BN.

The Registrar of Societies (ROS) deregistered Snap last November after an internal party squabble which led to the formation of a breakaway group, Sarawak Progressive Democratic Party (SPDP), which has since been admitted into the BN.

The SPDP is led by one of Snap's former vice-presidents, Datuk William Mawan, who is the State Minister of Environment and Public Health.

Edwin said he and his party colleagues were delighted at Mohamed's announcement a fortnight ago that Snap would be on the agenda of the forthcoming BN supreme council meeting.

Two other issues expected to be discussed are the crisis-ridden Parti Bansa Dayak Sarawak (PBDS) and the two MCA state assembly members in Penang.

Snap deputy president Datuk Justine Jinggut, who also contacted Bernama, said: "Until the BN supreme council meeting takes place next month let us not jump to any conclusion. Let the council make the decision."

-- BERNAMA

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