

29 FEB 2004

Moggie-Candidates

NOT JUST ANYBODY CAN BE A BN CANDIDATE, SAYS MOGGIE

KANOWIT, Feb 29 (Bernama) -- Not just anybody can be a Barisan Nasional (BN) candidate in the coming parliamentary election, said Energy, Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Amar Leo Moggie anak Irok today.

"Any individual nominated by any political party or offering himself as a candidate will be closely vetted...his background, character, popularity on the ground and others...to ensure he is the best person," he said at a meet-the-people session at Rh. Kadom in Nanga Semedang, Machan near here.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as the overall head of the BN would have the final say and he would have several channels to do so.

Moggie also described Abdullah as a very firm leader who had added on to the many fine policies of his predecessor, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"For instance, Pak Lah has launched a very major crackdown on corruption in the country, intending to wipe it out from the government system and this had won him many praises and respect from outsiders," he said.

As the new premier, he said Abdullah deserved all the support he could get and the Dayak community should give him their fullest support.

"You can do this by returning all the 28 BN candidates in the next election.

"Your overwhelming endorsement will show the world that he has the total and undivided support of all Malaysians, be they in its modern urban or remotest of the rural areas," he said.

Moggie, who the Member of Parliament for Kanowit, said the return of the BN to power too would mean political stability would again reign supreme in the country.

"We can attract more foreign and domestic investors, and with more

investments we can have more funds for development purposes," he said.

On the Parti Bansa Dayak Sarawak (PBDS) crisis, which led to its deregistration, he said it was "not a big problem and is about one or two people fighting each other to become its president."

He said there would be ways for the country's top leaders to look into and solve the problem sooner or later.

"Those who should be leaders following the legal process will be allowed to lead the party.

"Whether others would accept the decision or otherwise, we have to respect the law," he said.

More than 200 people and 40 "tuai rumah" (longhouse chiefs) were present at the function.

-- BERNAMA

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