

Sabah DCM Peter Pang quits LDP
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KOTA KINABALU - Sabah Deputy Chief Minister Peter Pang En Yin (left) has quit the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

Pang said he submitted his resignation to party president Liew Vui Keong in a letter delivered to the LDP headquarters here Wednesday, according to The Star.

Liew, the state Youth and Sports Minister, told reporters at his office here that his resignation was over the party's declaration that it could no longer work with Chief Minister Musa Aman, the Sabah Barisan Nasional chairman.

Stating his opposition to the LDP stand, Pang said: "The only thing left for me to do is to gracefully leave the party."

He said he was aware that his resignation from LDP would affect or "reset" his position in the government and offered to relinquish all his posts.

Pang, the Karamunting state assemblyman, however, added that he still intended to serve as a Barisan elected representative. Pang was appointed deputy chief minister in May last year.

The Star quoted him as saying: "I shall request the Chief Minister to guide me accordingly."

According to Bernama, Pang described the decision to quit the party as "painful" but said that it would allow him to "at least keep the little sanity that I have."

The resignation was a snowball effect of the open statements made by LDP leaders lately.

The LDP has been at loggerheads with the chief minister over certain issues in the state, including the aborted Mazu statue project in the northern Kudat district.

Musa had said it was unfortunate that LDP leaders chose to raise issues of personal interest, including the aborted Mazu statue project.

Recently, Liew moved to soften his party's hardline stand against Musa by offering to hold talks to resolve the problems.

Liew, who is Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, had said that he was prepared to discuss with Sabah BN about the party's central committee stand that it could no longer work with Musa.

Earlier, former chief minister Salleh Tun Said had claimed that certain leaders in LDP were working to topple Musa.

According to The Star, Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak said in Seremban that Pang had told him that he would not leave Barisan and intended to join Gerakan.

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