

PARTY GROWTH

4 SABAH MPs GET BERSATU MEMBERSHIP

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They are among 8, including 2 senators and 2 state assemblymen, who pledge to support Warisan, says Dr M

HASHINI KAVISHTRI KANNAN
PUTRAJAYA
hashini@nstp.com.my

FOUR parliamentarians, two senators and two assemblymen from Sabah, received their Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (Bersatu) official membership cards yesterday.

Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad presented the memberships earlier in a cere-

mony at the Perdana Leadership Foundation here.

The four members of parliament are Datuk Abdul Rahim Bakri (Kudat), Datuk Azizah Mohd Dun (Beaufort), Datuk Zakaria Edris (Libaran) and Datuk Seri Ronald Kiandee (Beluran).

The two assemblymen are Hajiji Haji Noor (Sulaman) and Datuk Masidi Manjun.

Senators Datuk Abdul Ghani Mohamed Yassin and Datuk John Ambrose, who were appointed as Dewan Negara mem-



Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad (seated, centre) speaking at the Perdana Leadership Foundation event in Putrajaya yesterday. PIC BY LUQMAN HAKIM ZUBIR

bers, also received their membership cards yesterday.

With the addition, Bersatu now has 26 members of parliament, with Pakatan Harapan 129.

Dr Mahathir gave his assurance that the new members of Bersatu, along with future members after the launch of Sabah Bersatu on April 6, will pledge their support to the Warisan party, which is governing the state.

“Even though Warisan is not among the coalition parties in the Pakatan Harapan (PH) government, we have given Warisan three ministerial and two deputy

ministerial posts in the cabinet.

“At the same, we also support the government formed by Warisan in Sabah. That is the stand of four parties of PH, including Bersatu.

“We have no intention to sideline or to replace the Warisan government. This is our stand, Bersatu is going to Sabah to support the Warisan government,” he said at a press conference yesterday.

On whether Sipitang member of parliament Yamani Hafez Musa would be joining Bersatu, he said the party would look into

his membership first. Dr Mahathir said that six other assemblymen would be joining soon.

On whether Datuk Seri Ronald Kiandee would remain as Public Accounts Committee chairman now that he has joined Bersatu, Dr Mahathir said he would still head the committee.

“It is a matter of policy of the government. It is not something that is institutionalised or part of the Federal Constitution,” he added.

Dr Mahathir said the opposition would need to get majority support to replace Kiandee.