

Jeffrey Kitingan leaves STAR for newly-registered Parti Cinta Sabah
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Sabah politician Datuk Dr Jeffrey Kitingan (pic) is set to jump party again, this time to newly-registered Parti Cinta Sabah (PCS).

Kitingan is expected to leave Sarawak-based State Reform Party (STAR), which he had contested under in the last general elections, the Borneo Insider reported today.

The Bingkor assemblyman is infamous for his short-lived careers in several political parties such as Parti Keadilan Rakyat, Parti Bersatu Sabah and Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah.

PCS, which has just been given the go-ahead to operate, is led by protem president Dr Nicholas James Guntobon, who is also Kitingan's close ally.

The Borneo Insider quoted Kitingan, who confirmed the news of his venture into PCS, "Yes we will be moving into Cinta."

The transition to the new party, Kitingan noted, would only be complete by the end of the year and only after consulting with his STAR counterparts in Sarawak.

He insisted that he wanted to move simply because Sabahans could only use the party symbol for the elections as only Sarawakians could become members of STAR.

"I will be talking to STAR officials about the development and will leave it to the protem Cinta committee to handle the changes," Dr Jeffrey was quoted as saying.

Kitingan and his allies had applied to form a new party in late 2009 while he was still in PKR. The veteran politician consequently quit PKR after a power struggle with local PKR leaders, which saw several of his people given the boot for applying for a new party.

PCS, meanwhile, failed to be registered before the May 5 polls and STAR was roped in by 2010 after Kitingan failed to take over some local parties in the state.

Kitingan was the only candidate from STAR who won a state seat in GE13. Guntobon, who contested under a STAR ticket, had also lost. - September 14, 2013.

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