

No contravention of PH manifesto in retaining Kiandee as PAC Chairman - Dr Mahathir

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PUTRAJAYA, March 16 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Kiandee was picked to be the Public Accounts Committee chairman when he was with the opposition and thus retaining him as its head following his defection to Pakatan Harapan does not contravene PH's manifesto, said Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Dr Mahathir , who is also PH chairman, said the ruling coalition could not block the ex-Sabah UMNO MP from joining PH component Bersatu.

"PH never expected him to move over. He (Kiandee) was from an opposition party before. When we picked him to be PAC chairman it means we stuck to our manifesto.

"But if he chooses a party of the ruling coalition what can we do. He was not chosen (to be PAC chairman) from a party in the ruling coalition, but from an opposition party ," he told reporters after launching the "Search for the Federal Territories Youth Icon" programme at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre (PICC) here today.

Asked if the other components in PH (DAP, PKR and Amanah) had agreed to this, Dr Mahathir said: "As far as I know, all (the components) agreed (for Kiandee to stay on a PAC chairman)."

Kiandee (the MP for Beluran) and three other ex-Sabah UMNO MPs and four ex-Sabah UMNO assemblymen crossed over to Bersatu yesterday.

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