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Don't be complacent or arrogant, Koh reminds Gerakan members

NIBONG TEBAL, Sun. - State Barisan Nasional chairman Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon has reminded party members against being arrogant or complacent in the party's preparation for the Sungai Bakap State by-election next month.

"If we lose (Sungai Bakap), it will be our own doing. We have an excellent track record of serving the people here and in most areas in the country. Let's keep up our good work for the people.

"We have always remained strong despite the challenges because we are always united and have always tackled any problem single-heartedly."

He was speaking at a unity dinner attended by about 3,500 BN members last night. It was organised by the Nibong Tebal Gerakan division.

Present were Gerakan deputy president Datuk Kerk Choo Ting and State Gerakan vice-chairman and Member of Parliament for Nibong Tebal, Dr Goh Cheng Teik.

Koh, who is State Gerakan chairman, also introduced BN candidate for the by-election, Lai Chew Hock.

Lai, 32, who is also State Gerakan Youth deputy chairman, was chosen as BN's candidate following the death of State Assemblyman Ooi Theng Bok in a car accident on Sept 23.

Kerk, who is also International Trade and Industry Deputy Minister, called for greater unity among the people to ensure continued prosperity for the nation.

"We must rally strongly behind our Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in his efforts to steer our nation from the current economic difficulties.

"This is the message to the people and we must spread it widely so that the people will remain united and continue working together to help the Government ensure continued socio-economic progress for everyone," he said.

The DAP has yet to announce its candidate. Pas has already decided against contesting in the Nov 8 by-election.

An ex-teacher, Abu Harith Ahmad, 40, has decided to stand as an independent.

Nomination is on Oct 29.

There are 16,589 registered voters in the constituency comprising about 48 per cent Malays, 36 per cent Chinese, 16 per cent Indians and one per cent others.

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