

10 OCT 1997

SUPP-Letter

SUPP CONDEMNS POISON-PEN LETTERS DISCREDITING TAIB MAHMUD

KUCHING, Oct 10 (Bernama) -- The Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP), one of the four Barisan Nasional component parties in the state, today condemned the circulation of poison-pen letters to discredit Chief Minister Tan Sri Taib Mahmud.

Its acting executive secretary Bong Kee Ling said the anonymous letters were the work of unscrupulous people to undermine the state's political stability.

They chose to circulate them at a time when the state was facing the the problem of haze which forced a state of haze emergency to be declared from Sept 19 and 28, he said in a statement.

He said there were other channels for the people to voice their opinion or grievances including through the Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA).

" The use of poison-pen letters are acts of cowards and such letters are only fit for the dustbin," he said.

On the absence of Taib during the haze emergency, Bong said Taib went overseas to scout for experts to contain the problem while his two deputies Datuk Dr George Chan and Tan Sri Alfred Jabu took charge in the state.

" This demonstrates the spirit of collective leadership in the state BN," he said.

Meanwhile, SUPP expressed its undivided support to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim in handling the country's financial and economic problems.

Bong said the party had full confidence in the leadership to tide the country through the economic problems and bring Malaysia to greater heights. -- BERNAMA

ESS TS