

# Coalition not sponsoring independents

1st 24 SEP 2007

BINTULU, Sun. — The State Barisan Nasional is not sponsoring any independent candidate to contest against its own members in the election.

Asking the people not to be misled by independents claiming they were representing the State BN, Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud said all BN candidates' nomination had been endorsed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Addressing residents in Tatau district, about 50km from here, Taib said both Talib Zulpilip and John Sikie Tayai, who are defending their Jepak and Kakus seats respectively, were the right choice to represent the community.

Taib was in Tatau to lay foundation stone for Tatau Sports Complex today.

The sports complex, to be built in two stages, with the first phase scheduled to be ready by July next year, will cost **RM1.8 million**.

Taib said BN would not allow independent candidates contesting against BN candidates to join any of its component parties.

“One good example of our stance on the matter is in Telang Usan where the independent candidate (Kebing Wan) who won in the last election was never allowed to join BN as he contested against us,” he said.

At the function, Taib also **RM200,000** to residents of **Rumah** Gerunsin who were left homeless after their **81-unit** longhouse was destroyed by fire early this month. The longhouse is located at Nanga Entelit in Tatau district.