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BN candidate banking on voters' wisdom to win seat

KOTA KINABALU, Wed. - Barisan Nasional candidate for the Gaya parliamentary by-election Liew Teck Chan said winning the seat is a challenge, but expressed optimism that voters' wisdom will prevail.

Liew, who is SAPP vice-president and the former political secretary to ex-Gaya MP Datuk Yong Teck Lee, said based on Sabah Progressive Party's track record, voters should know that the party had contributed tremendously to the constituents.

"If elected, I will complete Yong's electoral pledges. I promise to work hard," said Liew after Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat announced the BN candidate today.

Liew, who is also SAPP Likas constituency liaison committee chairman, said he had, through the party, actively served the constituency before this and had also learnt a lot from Yong.

Besides the SAPP service centre in the constituency, Liew said the party had also opened a mobile clinic to provide free medical service for the people there.

Asked about his chances, Liew said: "I always look at things positively. With the co-operation from the BN component parties, I am sure the voters will do their part."

Liew also thanked BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and SAPP president Yong for their trust in him to contest in the by-election.

The 54-year-old Liew has been involved in active politics for the past 17 years and was a Kota Kinabalu municipal councillor from 1985 to 1991 before being appointed a "people development leader" for the Likas constituency for three years.

In 1994, he joined Yong who was then State Local Government and Housing Minister. Liew also served as political secretary to Datuk Yahya Hussein, the State Rural Development Minister from 1996 to 1999.

Liew was also the vice-president of Sabah Hotel Association and chairman of Sabah Lius' Clan Peng-Cheng Association.

He is married and has two sons and a daughter.