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SUPP-Women

SUPP NEEDS TO REFOCUS ROLE TO ATTRACT MORE WOMEN MEMBERS

KUCHING, Dec 18 (Bernama) -- Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP) president Tan Sri Dr George Chan has urged the party to refocus its role to keep abreast with the needs and aspiration of the modern-day women in efforts to attract more women to join it.

Dr Chan, who is Sarawak Deputy Chief Minister, said today that as far as SUPP was concerned, it had always given due consideration to women to take up leadership roles.

"The party, in fact, wishes to encourage more public-spirited women to come forward to carry out voluntary, social and welfare work, including joining it," he said when opening the SUPP Youth and Women wings' triennial delegates convention (TDC) at the SUPP headquarters here.

Dr Chan said that apart from having one state assemblywoman, Lily Yong, who has been active in party politics for a long time, the SUPP was also among the first to have women councillors in the city, municipal and district councils as well as appointments as Ketua Kaum or Kapitan Cina.

The women delegates should see that the membership recruitment drive was included in their agenda besides putting their ideas together to work out programmes that were relevant to present and future needs for women, he said.

Dr Chan said that the Youth branches should look into the setting up of youth activity centres to provide the avenue and facilities for young people to meet and plan their outdoor social and recreational activities.

He reminded the Women and Youth wings to try to avoid confrontational, factional and frictional politics which could weaken or cause the party's downfall.

Given that the SUPP had always placed unity as the number one priority since its inception 43 years ago, he said that leaders should sit down to discuss and try to accommodate, compromise and reach a consensus if any internal issues or problems arose.

He said that the Women and Youth wings should avoid any mud-slinging that could create bad blood among its own members in the event of a contest, which "must be a family and friendly type of contest."

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to open the SUPP TGM here tomorrow.

-- BERNAMA

CJ RM