

MP: Limbang folk want issue resolved

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THE people of Limbang, Sarawak, will never be able to build permanent homes unless the outstanding issue of Limbang's "territorial claims" is resolved between Brunei and Malaysia, said a Barisan MP.

Henry Sum Agong (BN - Bukit Mas) said the people of Limbang had been living in temporary settlements without proper facilities for more than 45 years.

"The people want to know whether a solution to the Limbang problem will be reached soon following negotiations between leaders of both countries," he said when debating Budget 2004.

In May, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad raised the issue with Brunei's Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, saying he hoped to resolve the issue before he retires next month.

Dr Mahathir said a formula on Limbang, which borders Brunei, had been presented to Brunei before.

Agong said government departments and agencies including Immigration, Customs and police stations could not be built close to the border because of the unresolved issue.

Nasharuddin Mat Isa (PAS - Yan) called on the Government

to explain why it would not allow public rallies for the coming general election.

"The Government should state the definition of internal security and explain its claim that public rallies could pose a threat to the nation's internal security."

Datuk Yap Pian Hon (BN - Serdang) proposed that the Government review the police and military services by setting up a special committee led by Chinese and Indian senior officials to build confidence among the non-bumiputra community to join the police force, military service and voluntary uniformed bodies.