

BN Facing Sarawak Election With Confidence
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MIRI -- Barisan Nasional (BN) will face the upcoming state election with strong confidence to win through the strong support of the people, said Sarawak Chief Minister Abdul Taib Mahmud here.

He said victory in the election would allow for a continuity of development in the state to take place and to benefit the people.

Speaking at "An Afternoon with the Chief Minister" gathering at the Civic Centre here on Tuesday, he said people in Miri, in particular, had seen that all the development that had been taking place all these years were done through the hard work and good teamwork in the BN.

"The development was also due to the good planning and taking into account the benefits of the people in the long term. The opposition had never dared to think about accelerating the development that we have achieved except to criticize what had been done," he added.

Taib, who had been the Sarawak Chief Minister since 1981, announced the dissolution of the State Assembly take would take effect Monday (March 21), to pave the way for the 10th state election.

Taib, who is also the State BN chairman, said although the coming state election would be the last for him, he would not want to see the structures that he had set up for the state's future development, disappear.

He said the people deserved to enjoy a smooth leadership transition without the emergence of a vacuum that could deter the pace of progress.

"Without good leadership, there will be no development," he added.

Sarawak Deputy Chief Minister, Dr George Chan, who is also the Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP) president, also spoke at the ceremony attended by local BN leaders, community leaders, government heads and members of several non-governmental organizations.

(Bernama)