

Fight To The End For Chinese Seats
Malaysianmirror.com
April 14, 2011

KUCHING -- With a day left before polling, the fight for Chinese-majority areas is not over yet despite it being an uphill task for Barisan Nasional.

Sections of the community are still divided and the opposition is unlikely to win all Chinese areas, according to local observers.

The biggest consideration for the Chinese now is the leadership of Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak, his 1Malaysia policy and the government transformation agenda to turn Malaysia into a high-income nation.

"I sympathise with the position of the Prime Minister. He has been working hard to bring changes in the government administration system but in this state election, he is caught in a dilemma of bad timing," said a Chinese community leader who declined to be named.

"Irrespective of the outcome of this state election, I don't expect BN to lose all the Chinese seats. If the election in the Chinese areas this time is not favourable to the government, it is not a vote against the PM or 1Malaysia," he added.

The 10 constituencies where Chinese make up more than half the voters are Padungan (90.77 per cent), Pending (89.3 per cent), Batu Lintang (83.40 per cent), Kota Sentosa (69.34 per cent), Batu Kawah (54.56 per cent), Repok (55.90 per cent), Bukit Assek (94.62 per cent), Dudong (51.92 per cent), Bawang Assan (59.73 per cent) and Pelawan (89.07 per cent).

The Sarawak United People's Party, the Chinese representative in the state BN government, lost six of the seats to the DAP in 2006.

SUPP is again locked in a tussle with the DAP, with the opposition party reported to be having the upper hand.

Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin has several times stressed to the Chinese the importance of representation in the government.

The BN deputy chairman made the point again here today at a breakfast meeting with over 200 representatives of Chinese non-governmental organisations.

One of those who attended the session but requested anonymity said: "We get the message, we know the national top leadership wants to transform the country. This is something which we have to seriously think about. Not all the Chinese seats will be lost."

"I hope the Prime Minister will look into fairer education and job opportunities for Sarawakians. Many families here are split with children working in the peninsula or studying overseas."

(Bernama)

Copyright © 1999-2007 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd.

Source : <http://www.malaysianmirror.com/media-buzz-detail/6-nation/52867>