

BN Retains Two-Thirds Majority
Malaysianmirror.com
April 16, 2011

KUCHING -- The Barisan Nasional has clinched a two-thirds majority in the 10th Sarawak state election with the outcome in several constituencies still pending at 9.45pm.

Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak thanked the people of Sarawak when the state coalition achieved a simple majority of 36 seats.

Chief Minister Abdul Taib Mahmud, who is the state BN chairman, retained his Balingian seat with a majority of 5,154 votes in a three-cornered fight against his second cousin standing as an Independent, Salleh Jafaruddin, who obtained 1,056, and the challenger from Parti Keadilan Rakyat, Suriati Abdullah, who polled 871.

Two other BN component party leaders, Dr James Masing of Parti Rakyat Sarawak and William Mawan of Sarawak Progressive Democratic Party, also emerged victorious in their strongholds of Baleh and Pakan respectively.

Dr Masing beat PKR's Bendindang ak Manjah in a straight fight, polling 5,242 votes to win with a 3,898 majority.

In Pakan, William Mawan garnered 3,938 votes to oust Jamal Abdullah @ Tedong ak Gunda from Sarawak National Pary by a 1,197 margin.

However, the BN suffered a setback in the Piasau seat in Miri where Sarawak United People's Party president Dr George Chan was defeated in a straight fight by DAP newcomer Ling Sie Kiong.

Dr Chan polled 4,408 votes while his opponent had 5,998.

In the opposition, PKR has three seats in the bag, Ba'Kelalan, Batu Lintang and Krian.

The DAP, which dominated in Chinese-majority areas, has taken 10 seats - Pending, Bukit Assek, Pujut, Padungan, Kota Sentosa, Batu Kawah, Repok, Meradong, Pelawan and Piasau.

Independent George ak Lagong won the Pelagus seat.

(Bernama)