

MCA Seriously Views SUPP's Losses
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PETALING JAYA -- MCA has congratulated Barisan Nasional (BN) for its two-thirds majority victory in the 10th Sarawak state election on Saturday but said that the party viewed seriously the defeat suffered by Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP).

MCA deputy president Liow Tiong Lai said the BN's victory showed that the people of Sarawak remained confident in the BN and in the 1Malaysia vision mooted by Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak.

Speaking to reporters after closing the national-level health clinic advisory panel convention here yesterday, Liow however expressed concern over the defeat suffered by the Chinese-based SUPP.

In the election, BN won 55 out of 71 seats. SUPP, which contested 19 seats, lost 13 of them mostly to the DAP.

Liow said the defeat gave a strong signal to MCA to carry out transformation so as not to lose the support of the Chinese in urban areas.

"The signal is very strong," he said. "The MCA, and Gerakan, in the peninsula should take cognisance of this so that there would be transformation to win back the support of the Chinese," he said, adding that the defeat suffered by SUPP had reduced Chinese representations in the government.

"I'm saddened by this. Although during the campaign we reminded the Chinese voters that SUPP is their representative in Sarawak, it seems now that there is an increase in Chinese representations in the opposition," he said.

He said MCA leadership would work doubly hard to ensure the trend would not go on.

"As an MCA leader, I would have to work hard to win the Chinese votes and I'm committed to transforming and changing the party and resolving the problems among the Chinese community," he said.

(Bernama)