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Time for BN to wake up: Ku Li

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PETALING JAYA: Barisan Nasional (BN) leaders must wake from their slumber, face the truth and accept full responsibility for their biggest blow in Saturday's general election, Gua Musang MP Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah said.

He said they should begin immediately the process of restoring themselves, after the party has been defeated and shamed on a scale without precedent in its history.

"Alongside losing our two-third majority in Parliament, we have lost a record number of states to

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the Opposition, including the premier state and the home state of the prime minister. This is not just a blow to BN and Umno but to the nation as a whole.

"We now face a period of uncertainty. BN and Umno's legitimacy and strength have been the bedrock of national unity and of Malaysia's successful development since Independence. All this is now in question."

In a statement issued yesterday, Tengku Razaleigh added that the electorate's rejection of BN in key areas has serious consequences on BN's ability to execute its national development plans.

"We have won enough seats to form a federal government by simple majority, but because of our losses, including our stunning defeat in the Malay heartland states of Kedah and Kelantan, people are now saying that Umno has lost its legitimacy to represent the Malays," he said.

The other BN component parties have already lost their leadership role as representatives of the other major races of this country, he said.

"This is a historic crisis, and we must face it without further denial, self-deception or media spin," Tengku Razaleigh said.