

**Siamese Community In Ulu Bukit Sempit Supports BN
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PADANG BESAR, April 22 (Bernama) -- Sixty residents of Siamese descent from 16 families in Kampung Ulu Bukit Sempit, near here, promised to vote for Barisan Nasional (BN) in the 13th general election.

In fact, most of the residents who were farmers had never rejected BN.

According to a resident, Richard Perere, 51, "the BN government does what they promise and the Siamese community is given what we've been promised."

This was supported by Aina a/l Plot, 30, who said the BN government has never neglected the Siamese youths and hoped BN would continue to rule the country.

"About 40 Siamese youths in the village are satisfied with various government aid given and are confident that BN will continue to bring changes if given the mandate to continue governing the nation," he said.

BN candidate for the Padang Besar parliamentary constituency Datuk Zahidi Zainul Abidin agreed that the support of the Siamese was the same as other races.

Besides Kampung Ulu Bukit Sempit, the Siamese community also occupy other villages in Padang Besar including Kubang Tiga, Belukar Lenga, Panggas, Padang Jelutong and Guar Musang.

On development plans in the area, Zahidi said Padang Besar can be turned into a duty free zone like Langkawi.

"This is a tourist area so we want to continue to develop this, at least tourists will have a choice in duty-free areas," he said.

Zahidi will contest in a straight fight against a PAS candidate.

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