

**BN Lost SibU And Lanang Due To Greater Urban Folks Support For Opposition**  
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SIBU, June 30 (Bernama) -- Barisan Nasional lost SibU and Lanang parliamentary seats in the 13th general election due to greater urban folks support for the opposition.

Sarawak Minister of Local Government and Community Development Datuk Seri Wong Soon Koh said rural folks in state constituencies like Bawang Assan and Dudong which, formed the constituencies were still supportive of BN.

"The BN government is very appreciative and grateful for the continuing strong support. Our defeats were due to urban voters and not from the Ibans, Malays or Melanaus," he told 96 longhouse chiefs and community leaders from Bawang Assan here today before presenting the first phase of government development grants totalling RM350,000.

The Bawang Assan state assemblyman said BN would do its best to honour all promises made during the campaigning period.

"For Bawang Assan, my priorities are to upgrade existing roads, build more roads and bring in more water and power supplies."

Wong also told them that his responsibilities would be to try and get more development grants in order to cover more areas.

Meanwhile an analysis by the Bumiputera Wing of Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP) found that about 83.6 per cent of Iban voters in Bawang Assan had voted for the SibU BN candidate.

Its chairman Andrew Shilling said there was a need for BN supporters to be prepared from now for the next state election which was due by 2016 or earlier.

This is because the opposition, particularly the DAP had announced its intention to contest in more Dayak majority areas in order to capture the state government.

Andrew who is a political secretary to the chief minister said it is impossible for DAP to change the state government as the majority of the state seats are bumiputera majority areas.

"They have always been strong supporters of BN because they know only BN can help them to progress and prosper in life," he said.

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