

Wong Insists SUPP Delegates Conference To Be Deffered

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KUCHING, April 29 (Bernama)-- Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP) Sibu branch chairman Datuk Seri Wong Soon Koh wants the party's proposed triennial delegates conference (TDC), set for November this year, to be deferred until the 2011 election is legalised.

Wong, who is Sarawak Local Government and Community Development Minister, said the deferment meant no branch or party elections should be held for the time being.

"As there are a lot of irregularities during the 2011 party election which have not been settled and we leave it to the Registrar of Societies (ROS) to make the decision.

"Already two party branches (Piasau and Bekenu) have been deregistered by ROS, including the Piasau branch, of which the party president (Tan Sri Peter Chin) himself is the chairman," he told reporters after officiating at the students' forum for the Chinese private secondary schools here Tuesday.

As such, he said, SUPP should not proceed to its next delegates' conference.

On Chief Minister Tan Sri Adenan Satem's statement that SUPP's real enemy was DAP and not among the party leaders and members, Wong said it was a fair comment from the chief minister.

"Our group is not fighting for positions in the party but all we wanted was to rectify all the wrongdoings by the other group, (Chin's faction) in the 2011 party election," he said.

Wong also agreed to the formula for both groups to have equal representatives in the party's central working committee (CWC) while SUPP resolves the issues affecting it and prepares for the next party election.

He said the formula had been accepted by his group because this would give both sides sufficient time to ensure that the TDC and branch elections could be held in a free and fair manner.

The deferment of the TDC was permissible if both sides agreed to it and with consent from the ROS, he said.

Wong and his team of five elected representatives boycotted the December 2011 party polls and lodged reports with ROS, alleging irregularities.

They have refused to accept Chin and his team's position as elected office bearers, saying their election was illegal.

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