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DAP goes on campaign for Guan Eng

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - The DAP has launched a series of public meetings throughout the country, to enable Malaysians to show their support for convicted DAP deputy secretary-general Lim Guan Eng.

In a Press statement released today at the party's headquarters, party leader and Member of Parliament for Tanjung, Lim Kit Siang announced that the first such meeting was held in Malacca on Sunday.

The parliamentary opposition leader strongly protested against Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement yesterday about Guan Eng's recent jail sentence for sedition.

"Dr Mahathir's statement can only be considered as an endorsement of the conviction and an opposition to Guan Eng's appeal to quash the Court of Appeal conviction."

Dr Mahathir had said yesterday that the Court of Appeal's decision was purely a judicial process and did not erode the freedom of speech.

Kit Siang urged the Federal Court to note that the Prime Minister had not brooked an independent judiciary in the country during its worst judicial crisis in 1988.

On Friday, Guan Eng, 37, the son of Kit Siang, was sentenced to 18 months' jail by the Court of Appeal for printing false news and inciting the public in 1995.

He had questioned the country's laws following the Attorney-General's decision not to prosecute former Malacca Chief Minister Tan Sri Rahim Tamby Chik for the alleged rape of an underage girl due to insufficient evidence.

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