

Wong: Action tantamount to sabotage

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By TOMMY LEE

PENANG: Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon's action in holding back development funds for two MCA constituencies has been likened to "sabotage" the Barisan Nasional.

Penang MCA deputy chairman Wong Kam Hoong said yesterday it was unbecoming of a state leader to deprive the people of such funds.

"The chief minister should be held responsible for any seat lost in the state in the next general election.

"His attitude smacks of arrogance and a reflection of his childish behaviour," he said when commenting on claims by Datuk Keramat assemblyman Lim Boo Chang on Saturday that about RM60,000 in funds for development projects in six schools and an association in his constituency have been withheld for several months pending approval from Dr Koh.

Lim had said that Bayan Lepas assemblyman Lim Chien Aun also suffered the same fate.

Both Lims had quit Gerakan last January to become independents. They subsequently joined MCA.

Wong said Dr Koh should stop "shooting his own feet" and start behaving like a Barisan Nasional chief minister.

"Dr Koh should not allow his personal feelings to affect his decision which will deprive the people of development funds," he said.

"He should not continue to fight shadows and blame others for his own weaknesses."

Wong said Dr Koh should reflect on the reasons members had left Gerakan rather than pursue a vendetta crusade.

He also reminded the Chief Minister to abide by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's message at the recent Barisan Nasional convention to work hard to continue to be in power after the next general election.

Wong said the sidelining of MCA's recommendations in the recent state awards and the withholding of development funds ran contrary to the coalition's power sharing concept.

Last week, Wong said there were more awards for Datukships and senior titles this year but none of those recommended by MCA was considered.