

Koh will not dance to Guan Eng's tune
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Gerakan president Dr Koh Tsu Koon said he would not dance to the tune played by Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng on issues involving the state.

Koh, who is also Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, said he had his own way of exposing the issues, including the land scam and the Seberang Perai Municipal Council's (MPSP) RM230 million deficit.

Koh was speaking to reporters after launching the special edition 2011 calendar dedicated to the memory of former Penang chief minister Tun Dr Lim Chong Eu, initiated by the Gerakan National Beliwani Bureau in Kuala Lumpur today.

Guan Eng had yesterday questioned Koh on why wait until March to clarify the land scam involving Tang Hak Ju and the MPSP's RM230 million deficit and not now.

The Penang chief minister was commenting on Koh's statement last Sunday that the Penang BN would be on an aggressive campaign after March to explain to the people the efforts undertaken by the previous BN state government that had made Penang a developed state.

Special calendar

Touching on the special calendar containing Chong Eu's quotes and pictures, and in four languages - Malay, Chinese, Tamil and English - Koh said Chong Eu who was instrumental in initiating the industrialisation of Penang and Malaysia in 1971, deserved to be honoured as the 'Father of Industrialisation' for Malaysia.

"His political thoughts were mainly contained in his speeches as the president of Gerakan from 1971 to 1980. His eloquent quotes remain highly relevant for Malaysia today and in the future. Indeed, he was truly Malaysian and a great statesman," Koh said.

Chong Eu was MCA president before leaving the party to form Gerakan of which he headed from 1971.

Under his leadership, Gerakan joined the BN coalition in 1972 and while he was the chief minister of Penang, was responsible in setting up the Bayan Lepas Free Trade Zone, now known as Bayan Lepas Free Industrial Zone, which is dubbed Malaysia's silicon valley.

He was also behind the building of the Komtar building and the iconic Penang Bridge.

- Bernama