

Direct election for 3 S'gor villages head post
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Pakatan Rakyat-ruled Selangor is to hold elections for the heads of three Chinese new villages - Pulau Ketam, Pandamaran and Kuala Langat.

"This decision reflects that the state government is determined to return the rights to the people," state exco Ean Yong Hian Wah announced in a statement today.

Ean Yong (right), who oversees new village development in the state, explained that local government elections are still yet to be implemented because of constitutional constraints.

"However, after conducting a study, the state government is of the view that direct elections can be tried at the lowest management level, which is the village committee.

"We could gain experience from it, (which can) serve as a reference for future local government elections," he said, adding that the unprecedented village head elections will be held in few months.

He also revealed that another eight Chinese new villages in the state would also have new heads.

Pakatan has been under pressure to restore local government elections, which was a pledge in the coalition's election manifesto.

However, only the Perak state government, during the brief period it was ruled by Pakatan, materialised the promise, with residents in all 817 Malay villages given the right to elect their own ketua kampung or village heads.

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