

MCA: Guan Eng too busy to serve as Bagan MP
MalaysiaKini.com
January 2, 2012
Susan Loone

Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng has been criticised for having too much on his plate, with a rival politician from the MCA saying Lim may not be able to focus on his job as an MP as well.

David Chua MCA Bagan hopeful David Chua (right), the BN coordinator for Bagan, where Lim is MP, said the chief minister sits on too many boards as chairperson and may not be able to concentrate on serving the people in the constituency.

Among others, Lim is chairperson of the Penang Development Corporation and Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang, and heads other portfolios such as the state's Non-Islamic Affairs Council.

Chua, who aims to contest in Bagan and hopes to unseat Lim in the coming 13th general election, is appealing to the rakyat to give him a chance.

The impending election may be called as early as first quarter of this year, or June, although it is not due until 2013.

"I hope the people are wise enough to make their own decisions. What I can offer them is more focus on groundwork, which Lim cannot do because he is involved in too many portfolios," Chua told Malaysiakini today.

"Have you seen him coming around here to handle the people's problems? Once people tell you about their problems, you have to resolve them," he said.

"Lim hardly handles local issues. If the people of Bagan want this, what have they got to lose if they give me their votes?" he asked.

'Resignations no impact on MCA'

The Bagan parliamentary constituency has been an Opposition seat for almost 25 years, and Chua said though his chances of winning there now are merely about 20 percent, he is nevertheless prepared to take on Lim.

He said he is currently involved in doing welfare work for the 30,000-odd residents in the constituency and welcomes anyone who wishes to help him reach out to the needy.

penang mca youth chief eng hiap boon quit party 281211 01 His plan, if he wins the seat, no matter how remote it appears to be now, is to tackle bread-and-butter issues in the area so that "the people can have their stomachs filled".

On the current crisis in the Penang MCA, Chua was unfazed about more than 400 members, including the state Youth chief Eng Hiap Boon, resigning from the party.

He said the situation had no impact as party members supported and respected their chief Dr Chua Soi Lek and that "they will toe the party line".

"We can't say that just because our team did not get the presidency, we will change camp. Whoever wins, we wish him well and then we will monitor the performance," Chua said.

Soi Lek's performance 'OK'

Asked whether Soi Lek has lived up to the members' expectations, especially those from rival camps such as supporters of former chief and Pandan MP Ong Tee Keat, he said Soi Lek had managed to tackle issues affecting Malaysians.

These included the insistence of PAS in implementing hudud, besides handling internal party matters as best he could.

"He knows how to take care of and value members. He is not only politicking but taking party matters very seriously. For example, he is very punctual at meetings at the headquarters."

At the last party election in 2010, Ong and former party president Ong Ka Ting, lost to Soi Lek.

Chua said Soi Lek has somehow performed as expected during the past two years as party president.

Copyright © 1999-2012 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd
<http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/185462>