

Minister dares audit on alleged RM500mil loss

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Selangor BN deputy liaison chairperson Noh Omar wants the Selangor government to conduct a forensic audit on testimony given at the Selcat hearing yesterday that Yayasan Selangor lost RM500 million while it was under BN rule.

At a press conference today, Noh Omar (right) who is also Agriculture and Agro-based Industries Minister, said that any forensic audit on the matter is welcomed, so as to determine whether the accusations are true or the current Pakatan-led government is trying to "dupe the rakyat".

"I think they did not want to admit that within two years of their tenure, they had already misused RM1.4 million, as raised during the hearing yesterday, so they have tried to pull BN into the water," he said.

Noh Omar was commenting on Yayasan Selangor general manager Ilham Marzuki's testimony at the Selcat hearing that RM500 million went missing between 1991 and 2008.

"If not, our assets would have been RM800 million," Ilham reportedly told the Selcat committee chaired by Selangor Speaker Teng Chang Kim (left).

Noh Omar, however, said the hearing has proved his accusations right that a Yayasan Selangor gala dinner in November 2010 was fraught with costs irregularities.

He added Ilham had admitted to Selcat that the lavish event, which was organised to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the education foundation, had recorded a total expenditure of RM1.4 million.

The dinner came under media spotlight following BN's constant attacks on the huge spending and the Selangor Sultan subsequently refused to attend the event.

Noh Omar, who had said then that the dinner cost RM800,000, said Selangor MB Khalid Ibrahim owed him a public apology.

"Khalid on Nov 15, (2010) first asked me to substantiate my allegations with evidences. But when I challenged him to issue a public apology if he was proven wrong, he declined.

"Now Selcat has proven my words, and I expect him to apologise to me as soon as possible. If he doesn't, then his credibility is gone," he added.

The Tanjong Karang parliamentarian also explained why he did not disclose the evidence earlier.

"If I revealed it they (Selangor government) would certainly deny. So what's the point?"

"But I was a lawyer, so whatever I say, I will support it with evidences," he said.

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