

**Penang CM unfazed by BN's 'proof' on land status**  
**MalaysiaKini.com**  
**Sept 5, 2012**

Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng is not at all impressed with the BN's 'proof' that the land in Taman Manggis was approved for low-cost housing under its administration prior to the 2008 general election.

The 1.1-acre plot along Jalan Zainal Abidin on the island, the BN said, had been reserved for public housing and it has been criticising the Pakatan Rakyat administration for selling it to a private developer to build a medical centre.

BN claimed it has letters dated July 2003 indicating that the BN state executive councillors had given the go-ahead for the second phase of the low-cost project at Taman Manggis.

If that was so, Lim asked, why didn't the BN make a public announcement about the low-cost housing project in 2003?

"BN failed to follow up on matter for five years, between 2003 and 2008, to complete the project as it was never marked in the Penang Municipal Council (MPPP) layout plans," Lim said in a statement this afternoon.

"When I announced in 2009 that the land would be sold via open tender to build a private hospital to boost medical tourism in Penang, the BN did not object," he added.

Empty promises of the BN

Lim asked if this was another one of the "empty promises" of the BN, such as the Penang Outer Ring Road and the monorail promised by former prime minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

The failure of the BN to even announce the low-cost housing project or even put it on MPPP's layout plans showed that the coalition "is making baseless attacks" (against the state government) as the general election neared.

"Why didn't any BN leader object when an open tender called in 2009 was not only published in the press but even advertised in BN papers, such as The Star?" asked Lim.

"Clearly, BN is using the Taman Manggis issue to try to save BN Penang chief Teng Chang Yeow (right) for failing to show proof that I and several others have a personal interest in the hospital project," he added.

The others Lim referred to are his political secretary and Komtar assemblyman Ng Wei Aik and state exco members Chow Kon Yeow, Phee Boon Poh and Wong Hon Wai.

Lim said the BN was "desperately clutching at straws" by attacking his landlady as well, even though she did not bid for the land.

Teng also knew that the sale of the Taman Manggis land was conducted by open competitive tender, he added.

Copyright © 1999-2012 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd

Source: <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/208067>