

DAP denies running a 'Red Bean Army'

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DAP has denied claims that the party has a stable of 200 paid cybertroopers, dubbed the "Red Bean Army" by Utusan Malaysia, charged with demonising BN over the past six years.

In a press release today, DAP veteran Lim Kit Siang said that if 200 cybertroopers were to cost the party RM15 million a year, as claimed by Utusan, that means DAP would have paid RM108 million over the past six years.

"DAP just does not have this type of money although to Umno and BN, this is just a drop in the ocean of their funds!

NONE"DAP does not pay a single sen to any cybertroopers, unlike Umno and BN which used (millions) to organise social media conventions all over the country to raise an army of 10,000 cybertroopers in the run-up to the 13th general elections.

"Should we call these 10,000 cybertroopers the 'Belachan Army', 'Ikan Bakar Army' or 'Cincin Army'?" quipped Lim.

Lim said he had never heard of the term "Red Bean Army" until a few days ago while reading Utusan, which claimed that the group's modus operandi was to launch online attacks against any politician, businessman or entertainer who are seen to be pro-BN.

An 'invisible' army

Newly appointed Home Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi believes this to be true and said that the police, along with the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC), will catch those who break the law.

Lim said that he wished that the authorities will indeed do so and catch those who had defamed him during the general election campaign.

He said that he had been accused of causing the May 13 riots in 1969, that he is anti-Malay, anti-Islam and against the Malay monarchy.

NONELittle is known about the so-called "Red Bean Army" apart from what is being claimed by pro-Umno blogs, Utusan and pro-MCA activist Shen Yee Aun (right).

Shen, a former DAP member, claimed that the "Red Bean Army" had a membership of between 2,000 and 3,000 and had been operating for six years.

Utusan has claimed that each "Red Bean Army" member was paid RM3,000 a month, but the numbers don't add up because with 200 members, it would cost RM7.2 million a year and not RM15 million.

Thus far, no one has offered any concrete proof to show that the "Red Bean Army" is a real menace, and not just a silly name floating on the Internet.

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