

**DAP: Khalid Ibrahim speaks like BN on assets declaration**  
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DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng has shot down Selangor Menteri Besar Abdul Khalid Ibrahim's decision on partial declaration of assets of his state exco members.

Lim described Khalid's reason as being similar to that of BN.

lim guan engThe DAP will therefore ignore the instruction and direct its three representatives - the state speaker and three executive council members - to fully declare their personal assets.

Hannah Yeoh is the state assembly speaker, while the exco members are Teng Chang Khim, Ean Yong Hian Wah and Ganapathi Rao.

Khalid announced yesterday that the assets declaration by state exco members would not include the assets acquired before they took office, because of concerns over their personal security.

"DAP respectfully disagrees with Khalid's reasoning as this is what BN had relied on as an excuse in refusing to publicly declare the assets of its elected representatives," Lim said in a statement today.

He argued that when the Penang government publicly declared the assets of the chief minister and all its state exco members last year, there had been no threat to their personal safety or that of family members.

"The Penang Pakatan Rakyat leaders' public declaration of assets included all assets held before being appointed as state exco members and was certified by an international auditing firm," he said, adding that this was one of the party's general election promises.

'Vital to show there's no conflict of interest'

Lim explained that the declaration of assets held before an appointment to a government post is important to demonstrate that there were neither conflict of interest issues nor abuse of power, when decisions are made by the exco members or by the chief minister.

However, the DAP will not impose its views on the Selangor government, despite

this disagreement with Khalid, he said.

NONE "The timing of the public declaration of assets will be discussed at the party's central executive committee meeting at the DAP headquarters in Kuala Lumpur next Tuesday."

Lim also took a pot shot at Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Paul Low (left), who was president of Transparency International-Malaysia (TI-M) before joining the cabinet.

Low had supported the BN's position by not requiring any public declaration of assets in TI's Integrity Pledge ahead of the 13th general election.

"The DAP has never understood why TI-M and Low refused to require public declaration of assets by government leaders, which goes against TI's basic principles internationally, until Low accepted his appointment as a cabinet member." Lim said.

"To date, Low has refused to adopt DAP's proposal for public declaration of assets by BN ministers and state exco members."

Teng: No contradiction

When contacted, Teng said he will follow the party instruction and declare his assets.

He also stressed that the party instruction did not contradict the state government's stand.

"Although the state government said there was no need to declare our assets to the public, but we (the DAP excos) can still do it and we are tied to the party stand.

"I won't that both (instructions) are contradictory, because the state government did not stop us from declaring our assets, but only hold an opinion that there is no need to make it public," said Teng.

The state DAP vice-chairperson said his party had announced that all its representatives with government position must declare their assets after the general election.

Hence, he said he and his party colleagues will keep their promises.

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