

Make Sabah RCI report public now, says DAP
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Accusing the federal government of dragging its foot on Sabah's illegal immigration problem, DAP parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang today called on it to make public immediately the Royal Commission of Inquiry (RCI) report on the matter.

Lim said the report was presented to the Yang di-Pertuan Agong on May 14 - almost two months ago - and there was still no sign of it in the public domain.

This, said the MP for Gelang Patah in Johor, sets a new record for the longest time between the presentation of an RCI report and its publication.

"This is why the recent announcement of the prime minister (Najib Abdul Razak) to restructure the Eastern Sabah Security Command (Esscom) does not inspire much public confidence that the government is serious in giving top priority to ensure security in Eastern Sabah...

"The federal government has not shown any will or leadership to stamp out the root problem of the decades-long illegal immigrants in Sabah - which is the root cause of the security and law-and-order crisis in Sabah," Lim said in a statement today.

The RCI was set up in September 2012, with a six-member panel to investigate allegations of a citizenship-for-votes scheme in Sabah the 1980s.

It was headed by the former chief justice of Sabah and Sarawak Steve Shim.

In previous RCIs, the time between the submission of the reports to the Agong and their publication varied between about week, such as the RCI into the illegal interference in the appointment of judges in 2008, to a month, in the case of the RCI into the death of political aide Teoh Beng Hock in 2011.

Lim said Najib risked losing credibility if he continued to withhold the Sabah RCI report because it would confirm fears that the setting up of this inquiry was insincere, and merely an "unconscionable electioneering manoeuvre" ahead of the 2013 general election.

"How else to explain the extraordinary episode of the RCI into the Illegal Immigrants in Sabah presenting its report to the Yang di Pertuan Agong on May 14, but the federal government still refusing to make its recommendations public after close to two months?" he asked.

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