

**Guan Eng: Away with Little Napoleons**  
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Penang needs to rid itself of "Little Napoleans" if it wants to achieve international standards, reiterated Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng today before handing over RM5.2 million worth of Aidilfitri bonus to the state's civil servants.

NONELim, who is DAP national secretary-general, said the actions of these Little Napoleans can cause great loss to the people of Penang.

He added that the state government has recently revealed the face of those "Little Napoleans" for all to see so that they can be aware of their characteristics.

"They are arrogant, they misuse power without referring to laws and do not respect democratic principles," he said during his speech at Komtar today.

"Whether we want to or not, whether we like it or not, we would have to distance ourselves from the bad habits of these Little Napoleans", he added, before handing out RM500 each to the state's civil servants this morning.

NONELim had been involved in an earlier spat with state development officer (SDO) Nik Ali Nik Yunus (left) who issued a public statement at the Umno headquarters in Penang, accusing the former of being "rude and cowardly" for interfering in his work.

Lim had criticised Nik Ali on his role in three projects - the arches at the Botanical Gardens, the alleged illegal sand mining in Balik Pulau and the stop-work order on the construction of the Defence Ministry's multi-storey air force school building in Tanjung Bungah.

Nik Ali has yet to apologise for his outburst and has remained silent so far, while the chief secretary to the government has come out to defend its officer when the state government suggested he should be sacked for his incompetency.

Bonus raised to RM500 each

Meanwhile, Penang will spend RM5.2 million of its budget to give the state's civil servants RM500 each, a RM100 (or about RM1 million) increase from an earlier promised sum of RM400.

Other than the government department staff receiving the handouts from Lim today, religious teachers (Al-Quran and Fardhu Ain class teachers) were also presented with RM250 each.

A total of 3,700 staff from the Penang and Seberang Perai municipal councils, state religious department, state museum and art gallery, state public library, water department, state integrity institute, and George Town World Heritage Incorporated staff will benefit from this programme.

Lim said the state's earlier announcement of RM400 Aidilfitri bonus for civil servants had managed to attract the attention of the federal government, which has also decided to extend RM500 for its staff.

"Therefore, we decided to increase the amount (from RM400 to RM500) to be at par with

the federal government," he added.

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