

**Three promises and a debate challenge from DAP**  
**Malaysianmirror.com**  
**13 August 2010**

PETALING JAYA - The DAP has made three promises to bolster support for the coming 13th general election while strongly condemning the death threat against Petaling Jaya Utara MP Tony Pua.

In the media press conference Friday, DAP Secretary General Lim Guan Eng announced the Opposition's pledge to take initiatives in the name of the rakyat's welfare.

Both Lim and Adun for Kampung Tunku Lau Weng San have also issued separate press statements condemning the threatening letter and M16 bullet received by Pua on Wednesday.

It was reportedly related to his proposal to abolish bumiputera special discount to property purchase.

In the press conference at the party headquarters Friday, Lim said the Central Executive Committee (CEC) has decided yesterday that all DAP leaders will work on three major policy initiatives beneficial to the people:

- > The 'saman ekor' system will be abolished as the practice of blacklisting owners of vehicles is not only unfair but illegal;
- > Approval of the annual RM1,000 to all senior citizens aged 60 and above; and
- > Free wi-fi throughout Malaysia to foster innovation and human talents.

He said this is vital for Pakatan Rakyat should the party win the Federal power and capture Putrajaya.

DAP leaders were also urged to 'aggressively rebut' Barisan Nasional lies which claimed the party as communist and anti-Malay/anti-Islam.

Meanwhile, Lau has challenged the person behind the 'cowardice' act of threatening Pua to come forward to an open debate. He added that low-level politicking is intolerable.

The DAP Adun has set the debate on Sunday, August 15, at 2pm at the Rocket Cafe for both parties to have a "heart-to-heart talk" on the relevant issues.

"Instead of hiding behind the bush and attack anonymously, I challenge the sender to stand true to his stand and appear openly to debate on the matter rationally without resorting to any racial sentiments," Lau said.

Lim, also DAP MP for Bagan, said that the CEC is deeply concerned with the incident as the general public is not allowed to own M16 firearms except for Malaysian security personnel.

Therefore, the CEC urged the police and federal government to view Pua's case seriously as it could lead to unhealthy speculations about the possible connections of the M16 live bullet.

Lau also defended Pua by reiterating that the public has been misled by reports published in the mainstream Malay newspapers which spun DAP's proposal into suggesting a full

abolishment of the special bumiputera discount.

Lau said: "This is untrue as the reason why such discount should be abolished is that it goes against the policy of affirmative action when such discount does not benefit low-income bumiputeras while stiffening the competitiveness of local property market."

The discount is meant to encourage underprivileged bumiputeras to property ownership and "not to help the rich bumiputera to become richer," Lau explained.

He believed that money should be funnelled to the Bumiputera Housing Fund to allow the government to purchase land in strategic locations and construct affordable houses for the middle and lower income groups. - MM

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