

**Poison pen letter accuses Perak DAP of taking timber donations**  
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KUALA LUMPUR (Malaysian Insider) – An explosive letter alleging corruption and kickbacks in logging concessions during the one year Pakatan Rakyat rule of Perak has surfaced as the war between rival DAP factions for control of Perak DAP degenerates.

The unsigned and undated letter is believed to have been widely circulated among Perak DAP leaders and possibly being used as ammunition by one group to hobble their rivals ahead of the November 14 DAP Perak elections.

The letter entitled, "What happened to RM21.5 million donated by loggers for logging concession", has been distributed to all 19 DAP state assemblymen and six MPs, provides a list of all timber companies given lots for logging, their allocations, and lot numbers.

In it, it was alleged that the DAP was given 43 concession, while PAS and PKR received 30 each from the PR government after RM21.5 million in "donations" were made by the logging firms. It did not, however, say who received the "donations."

The letter also demanded a DAP probe into the party responsible for the "mystery RM21.5 million" money.

Responding to the claims, DAP sources believed the letter was timed to coincide with the DAP CEC meeting on Wednesday, when the issue is likely to be raised.

Lim (right) is trying to prevent a Perak DAP war of attrition. DAP state assemblyman for Sungkai and former Perak exco member A. Sivanesan confirmed receiving such a letter in the post but denied he had received any logging concession.

"I am unaware of this matter. I am not in the logging concession committee nor was I allotted any concession," he told The Malaysian Insider.

He said if the DAP leaders "continue to fight and throw mud at each other, they can kiss goodbye to their ambition to recapture Perak let alone march to Putrajaya."

"We are not kindergarten children who can't negotiate and settle disputes," he said, adding he was confident the party crisis in Perak could be settled amicably.

"Give it a few more days," he said, before claiming to be in the dark over the identity to the letter's author or authors, but hoped it would be investigated and the air cleared for the "good of the Pakatan."

Main protagonists Ipoh Barat MP M. Kulasegaran and his rivals, cousins Datuk Ngeh Khoo Ham and Nga Kor Ming, could not be reached for comment but their aides said all DAP leaders were under strict orders not to expose anything to the media.

"We are not behind the letter," said a DAP leader in the Ngeh-Nga faction. "Ask Kula about it," he said angrily.

A Kulasegaran supporter, however, denied they had any hand in penning the missive. He

said it was for Ngeh, Nga, Sivanesan and other exco members to refute the letter's claims and not Kulasegaran, who he said was uninvolved in state's administration.

Teng was invited to speak in Perak rallies by the Ngeh-Nga camp.

"Those in the Perak exco... they have to answer whether they received timber concessions or not... whether the allegations in the letter are true or false. At the very least, the DAP should investigate and explained to the people," he said.

The run-up to the November election is turning into a brutal contest with state DAP chairman Ngeh and his cousin Nga on one side, and deputy chairman Kulasegaran and organising secretary Thomas Su on the other.

According to party insiders, the tussle has split the state DAP, with leaders lining up with either camp and DAP advisor Lim Kit Siang caught in the middle trying find a solution to prevent the power struggle from escalating yet further.

Both factions support Lim but the Ngeh-Nga side, who control the chairman and secretary posts, are said to have become too powerful for Lim's liking.

In recent months the Foochow cousins have also been inviting Selangor speaker Teng Chang Khim, a rival to secretary general Lim Guan Eng in the DAP, to speak at political rallies in Perak.

Kulasegaran has also become isolated and sidelined in Perak because many of the Indian leaders he had groomed and promoted — like Buntong assemblyman S. Sivasubramaniam and Tronoh assemblyman and former state Speaker A. Sivakumar — have sided with the cousins in the fight for control of Perak.

Whichever faction comes out on top of the November 14 state committee elections would have a big say over who gets nominated as candidates in the next general election and stands to benefit if PR succeeds in retaking the state.

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