

Lim gives Utusan 14 days to withdraw allegations
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GEORGE TOWN - Umno-owned daily Utusan Malaysia has been given 14 days to withdraw an alleged malicious article on Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng, failing which a defamation suit will be filed against the newspaper, The Star reported.

State DAP vice-chairman Jagdeep Singh Deo said a notice of demand dated Dec 21 had been issued to the Malay daily to withdraw the alleged malicious words used in its feature article titled 'Kebiasaan Guan Eng', published on Dec 20.

The notice also demanded the newspaper publish an apology and to pay Lim a reasonable amount of compensation.

Jagdeep said Lim, in the notice, denied having said or done anything as alleged in the article.

In newspaper reports on Dec 21, Lim had said that he would sue the Malay daily for publishing an article alleging he had cancelled the Maulidur Rasul procession here and demolished Malay villages.

"I did not cancel the Maulidur Rasul procession, I did not tear down the Malay villages, they are all still standing!" Lim said on Monday.

"These are wild accusations because they should go and read my text during the Pakatan convention where I said we needed to focus on real Malaysians and not pseudo-Malaysians who are extremists and greedy," Lim said on Tuesday, referring to Utusan's report that Lim and the DAP were in no position to question a Malaysian's nationality.

"The Chief Minister has also denied being a racist and an anti-Malay.

"He has also not gone against the Malays or oppressed them, did not cancel the Maulidur Rasul procession or stop the Malays from trading in Komtar during Ramadan month and has not demolished any villages.

"Neither has the Chief Minister used funds from the Penang Turf Club for the senior citizens appreciation programme," he was quoted as saying in The Star.

Jagdeep said Lim was also considering taking legal action against the Malay daily for allegedly reporting that Lim raised citizenship issues in his speech at the recent Pakatan Rakyat convention.

He said Lim had sent five notices of demand to the newspaper since 2008, with one suit already filed in court.

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