

DAP Should Prove They Are Not Making Empty Promises

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The 28-point declaration, dubbed the 'Shah Alam Declaration', which was passed at the recent DAP National Convention on 8 January 2012 had, among others, called to "address corruption and leakages through the CAT (Competency, Accountability, Transparency) Governance model". Therefore it is necessary for DAP to take note and investigate any allegations of power abuse immediately lest their resolutions become nothing but mere words.

If DAP is unable to conduct internal investigations, then it should be left to a third party, ie the police, to investigate the allegations instead. This way, the investigation is sure to be transparent.

In the past, DAP has always issued gag orders on matters which involves the public's interest. This reflects negatively on the party. Suspicion abounds as DAP attempts to hide the truth from the public. Such actions violate DAP's pledge for a clean government and transparency.

The onus is now on DAP to reveal the truth

Thus, DAP has the responsibility of uncovering the truth behind the tailoring contract obtained by the company of DAP Perak secretary Nga Kor Ming's wife, as well as graft allegations in the Penang state government hinted by Penang Deputy Chief Minister II Dr P Ramasamy.

Among the several integrity measurements proposed by DAP Secretary General Lim Guan Eng, two of them states "a ban on politician's involvement in businesses to avoid conflicts of interests", and to implement "an open tender system to banish cronyism and capitalism" (Sun, 9 Jan '12). Hence, DAP has to practise what they preach by investigating the allegations surrounding Nga Kor Ming and Ramasamy, and not just accept Nga's statement as final.

Ever since the tailoring contract incident in Perak was exposed, a dramatic performance unfolds before us. Nga attempts to distance himself from the accusations by crying defamation. Trying to gain public sympathy and to divert attention away from the main issue, Nga then claimed that he received a threat letter and a bullet. Finally, the Perak PAS deputy chairman had organized a press conference to declare Nga's innocence and that PAS was willing to accept the findings of DAP's disciplinary board. In the end, the case was declared solved internally.

However, this is not just an internal DAP party problem. It involves public interest and completely contradicts the measures proposed at DAP's National Convention. Hence, DAP should not continue to cover up the scandal but provide a clear explanation to the people of Perak.

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