

DAP Politicizes Education
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The threat made by Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng while handing out funds to 84 Chinese schools to halt allocating funds to schools which subscribe to Utusan Malaysia and Berita Harian goes against the spirit of racial unity. By making such threats, especially when it involves the education sector, is also proof that DAP politicizes education for their own personal political benefits.

Despite his excuse that the statement was only made in jest, it is an impractical joke and an inappropriate one as well seeing that he is after all the Chief Minister and a well-known politician. Such actions only suggest that DAP supports using hate politics to attack its political foes, and as such, it is no surprise that DAP has yet to take action against its election preparations propaganda chief Hew Kuan Yau, commonly known as 'Superman', for his usage of vulgar, insulting statements directed at BN leaders and their families.

DAP sows discord among all communities

It is bad enough that DAP pits the Chinese against the Chinese, but he now attempts to sow discord between the Chinese and the Malay communities. Considering that the remarks were allegedly made to Chinese school representatives, the DAP Secretary General should realise that impressionable people might end up being influenced with his comments and hold distrust against the Malay community considering that both Utusan Malaysia and Berita Harian are Malay language newspapers.

Likewise, the Penang Chief Minister should also be aware that ultra conservatives on the other hand may not be too accepting of not only DAP or other Chinese-based parties, but against the Malaysian Chinese community in entirety thanks to his "joke".

Depriving students from improving their Malay language skills

The Chinese community takes the issue of education seriously, and Guan Eng's subtle threat can be constituted as a move to hold Chinese education hostage, thus forcing the Penang Chinese community to continue supporting DAP.

Schools also commonly subscribe to newspapers in order to improve their students vocabulary in language. By preventing Chinese schools from subscribing to Malay-language papers, the end result might be that students will not gain a strong foothold in the national language, thus alienating them from the other communities due to their lack of competency in Malay.

Maybe next time Guan Eng can be more mature and think of the consequences of his actions and words before he opens his mouth to speak.

Lastly, it is not unknown that Guan Eng bears a grudge against Utusan Malaysia as it does not report favourably towards his party and state government. It is also widely known that Guan Eng has had attempted to sideline Utusan Malaysia by barring it from attending the state's legislative assembly sittings as well. Thus, this threat could be Guan Eng's desperate attempt at instilling his own version of justice by blacklisting the newspaper among Penangites.

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