

Koh: Substantiate your complaint

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PENANG: Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon yesterday called on Komag Inc chief executive officer Datuk Tan Thian Hoo to substantiate his complaint against state investment agency, InvestPenang.

Koh called for specifics on Tan's complaint to allow the state government to carry out a proper investigation.

"We will need more specific information to investigate these allegations, as it could be on any case," Koh said when asked to comment on Tan's statement that he (Koh) was missing the point.

"I do not think I missed any point, as we had positive comments on InvestPenang from not just MNCs but also from SMEs.

"Unfortunately the English media did not report all the statements in full. We have received comments from SMEs who said they have also benefited from InvestPenang," Koh said.

"He should have made his complaint to me directly rather than to talk to the press. He knows he can do that," he told a press conference after opening an international conference on sustainable housing at Universiti Sains Malaysia yesterday.

The two-day conference to share ideas on sustainable housing has participants from Saudi Arabia, UK, Iran, Hongkong, Belgium, Yemen, Thailand, Australia, Kuwait, Nigeria and others.

Koh also said InvestPenang cannot please all the investors by giving them everything they want.

"There are bound to be a few cases where the investors will not get 100% of what they want," he said.

"In his case, where he introduced some SMEs here, our records show that it was not that we did not serve them. But one or two of them had problems, due to their peculiar circumstances," Koh added.

Earlier, Koh said researchers and academicians should work hand in hand with private developers in R&D for the housing industry, which is currently lacking in the country.

"Developers should be getting more involved with researchers and academicians in this field to find solutions to various problems in the housing sector," he said.

"This is also a way to get the private sector to provide more support to relevant research which will be useful to them," Koh said.