

Kong Choy: Stop pointing fingers, tighten security

by **Giam Say Khoon** and **Regina William**
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

PUTRAJAYA: Stop blaming each other. Sit down and work out a solution to enhance security at the cargo complex in Batu Maung, Penang.

"Complete that within a week!"

That is the order from Transport Minister Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy to Malaysia Airlines (MAS) and Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd (MAHB) yesterday.

Chan said the ministry formed a committee on Tuesday, comprising MAS and MAHB, to come up with a proposal to tighten security at the complex.

"The government is very disappointed with the (RM47 million microchips) heist. The cabinet discussed this (yesterday) and expressed concern over the incident.

"The committee met at 3pm on Tuesday. I told them to meet immediately look into the problems and come out with a proposal," he added.

Clearing the air over who should be held liable for allowing the heist to take place, Chan said: "MAS is the appointed authority for the free commercial zone. They are responsible for the zone's

perimeter.

The Sun - 23/11/2006
"But for the respective warehouses inside the zone, it's the occupants' responsibility to hire guards or have their own security set-up," he said.

Speaking to reporters in a post-cabinet briefing, Chan said he welcomed police suggestions to equip the security personnel and customs officers with firearms "because they are guarding multi-million ringgits worth of properties.

"Like the free zone in KL International Airport, all security personnel are armed and security is very tight," he added.

In **PENANG**, Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon said: "Let the heist be a lesson (to all) and a wake-up call of what can go wrong if delivery systems are full of loopholes.

"It is a clear example of how things can go wrong when carelessness reigns."

Addressing an assembly of civil servants at the launch of a state-level Integrity Month, Koh said the heist had not only caused losses, "the image of the state and country had also been affected negatively."

"Let's learn from this incident. We (civil servants) must all buck up," he added.