

# Kayveas immature, says Keng Yaik

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**Dewan  
told:  
100  
undergrad  
offenders  
caught  
every year  
pg 8**

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**PETALING JAYA:** Gerakan president Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik has dismissed People's Progressive Party (PPP) president Datuk M. Kayveas' remark that his merger proposal was meant to strengthen the two parties as Gerakan's strength was waning while the PPP was

growing.

Lim said that following the remark, he questioned if the proposal was really meant for the good of the country.

"How can you want to talk, when you come out with statements like that?" he said to reporters after launching the National Suria 1000 programme here yesterday.

"If he carries on like that,

there will be no merger talks. Ask him how to talk if he keeps barking like that.

"Obviously, he hasn't got the experience ... to initiate sensitive and difficult discussions. Don't talk about negotiations."

Kayveas had said at the Pahang PPP general assembly on Sunday he had mooted the idea of a merger between his party and Gerakan last week so that both could emerge stronger.

According to a Bernama report, he said the PPP membership was expected to reach one million by 2007 and, with the merger, the party would become a strong Barisan Nasional component member.

"Gerakan's strength seems to be waning and the PPP seems to be growing. This proposal is sincere and not initiated due to self-interest," Kayveas said.

He first floated the merger proposal at the Penang PPP convention opened by Penang Chief Minister and Gerakan deputy president Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon.

Asked to respond to that several days later, Lim had said Gerakan would need to know PPP's intention and if it was for the good of the country before considering the proposal.

Kayveas then said the PPP had no plans to discuss the merger with Lim and would only discuss it with Koh when he takes over as party president in April.

Lim said yesterday: "He will reply that I am arrogant. He will do it (merger plan) after I resign ... you try and see, so easy-ah?"

"This shows the immaturity of a leader, with no experience."