

BORNEO POST

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Dr M told to rebut ICs claim

Parliamentary Select Panel on National Integrity member Kit Siang says ICs case is serious

The number of ICs for aliens

Our report yesterday

Thousands of false ICs

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By Ripin Mintow

KOTA KINABALU: Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has been urged to rebut the allegation that the extraordinary population increase in Sabah was caused by the deliberate issuance of Malaysian ICs to foreigners based on falsified Statutory Declaration under Project IC or Project Mahathir.



Lim



Chong

The call was made here yesterday by Opposition Leader and Democratic Action Party (DAP) Advisor Lim Kit Siang, who is also a member of the Parliamentary Select Committee on National Integrity.

He said the allegation made by Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) Supreme Council Member Dr Chong Eng Leong at the public integrity hearing at the State Legislative Assembly Building here on Thursday, was a serious one.

Met by reporters here yesterday, Lim noted that those were very serious allegations which Mahathir could not allow to stand in the public domain un-contradicted or un-clarified.

He reckoned that alternatively, Mahathir should ask for an appearance

before the Parliamentary Select Committee on Integrity to give his version about the Project Mahathir False ICs as alleged by Dr Chong.

In his submission before the Committee, Dr Chong alleged that the extraordinary population increase in Sabah was caused by the deliberate issuance of Malaysian ICs to foreigners based on false Statutory Declarations.

As a result, there are today around 1.75 million foreigners in Sabah, including those in possession of the Project Mahathir ICs, as compared to 1.5 million genuine locals in Sabah.

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The former Senator said he was specifically talking about hundreds of thousands of false ICs already in the hands of foreigners who are proclaiming themselves not only Malaysians but Bumiputras having all the privileges and rights of Customary Native Rights in Sabah.

He disclosed that in the 1999 certified electoral rolls, through the new IC numbers, it was revealed that there were 150,000 Sabah-born registered voters who were born in 1952 through 1960 but according to the Sabah Statistics Department, the State's population in 1951 was 334,141 and in 1960, 454,421, an increase of 120,000.

He estimated that with 80 per cent registered as voters, there

would only be about 100,000 Sabah-born voters for this period – which would mean that about one-third of voters allegedly born in Sabah in 1952-1960 were foreigners with ICs issued fraudulently with the use of falsified Sijil Akuan under the infamous, dubious foreigners registration scheme popularly known as Project Mahathir False I/Cs.

Meanwhile, Lim made a surprise visit at a popular fish noodles shop located along Jalan Bundusan in Penampang before he flew back to Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

He was accompanied by DAP KK Branch Chairman Dr Hiew King Cheu and its Sepangar Branch Chairman Frederick Fung.