

DAP tells ex-leader to come clean on the 'Project ICs'

KOTA KINABALU: Parliamentary Opposition Leader and DAP MP for Ipoh Timur Lim Kit Siang has called on a senior former government leader to speak up on the serious allegation about "Project ICs" in Sabah which has resulted in foreigners exceeding Sabahans in the State population.

He was responding to a report, on the allegation made by former Senator Dr. Chong Eng Leong in his submission to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Integrity at the Sabah State Assembly, Thursday.

"These are very serious allegations which the person cannot allow to stand in the public domain un-contradicted or unclarified. Alternatively, he should ask for an appearance before the Parliamentary Select Committee on Integrity to give his version," he said.

In his submission, 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 under a so-called "Project IC."

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

He reckoned that some 600,000 illegals now possessed these ICs in Sabah.

A PBS Supreme Council member, Dr Chong 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 privilege and rights of Customary Native Rights in Sabah.

He disclosed that in the 1999 certified electoral rolls, through the new ICs 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 IC".