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Newspaper	The Sun
Date	29/8/2013

# Guan Eng willing to work with Najib on development

*The Sun - 29/8/2013*

THE PENANG government is hopeful that it can work with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak's administration in developing the state.

Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng said his administration wants a formal but cordial relationship with the federal government in this respect.

"When I meet him officially, he is always proper, very courteous," he said, adding that the federal government should realise that

Penang is too important to fail and "if Penang fails, Malaysia fails".

He said Penang played a very important role in the national economic picture as it contributed nearly 25% of all Malaysia's imports and exports.

"The federal government has been non-committal in respect of working together in the past.

"We want a cordial relationship. Of course, not one that is warm and fuzzy," he said.

Lim said both parties needed to be professional in their approach to the issue of development with a common understanding on areas of mutual interest like transportation facilities.

Penang, he said, was also developing the central (SPT) and southern areas (SPS) on the mainland (where the second bridge would end) and the northern area where the landing point of the proposed tunnel will be located.

On development in the state since

the Pakatan Rakyat electoral wins in 2008 and May 5 this year, Lim said Penang has progressed and prospered since it took over from Barisan National.

"I think what is most prevalent and prominent is the confidence inspired among Penangites in Penang's future, not only from the old but the young."

He said Penang has been transformed because of a sense of confidence that the future is brighter

for those willing to work hard and excel in life.

"We want to do the things that inspire confidence and we can boldly tell the young to grow up quickly because Penang is waiting for you," he said, reinforcing optimism that the state is moving towards establishing an international and intelligent city and a people-centric government.

"We are establishing a platform for all dream-makers to make their dreams come true," Lim said.