

Cattle scandal may cost BN Malay votes, says Guan Eng

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By Debra Chong

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 19 — Malay voters in Penang are angry with Datuk Seri Najib Razak's refusal to act on the RM250 million cattle scandal linked to a minister's family, Lim Guan Eng said today.

"From the response of the public, more than 85 per cent of Malays see anger at corruption in [Barisan Nasional], especially Najib's persistent and continued defence of his government's refusal to act on the cows-and-condos scandal.

"I think this is concrete evidence of unhappiness amongst all Malaysians including the voters of Tasek Gelugor and Penang," the Penang chief minister said, responding to Najib's claim that Pakatan Rakyat (PR) was in a "fragile" state.

Lim, who is DAP secretary-general, observed the head of the ruling BN government appeared to have bigger issues on his plate than worrying about the state of affairs among his three political foes in the PR pact.

He pointed to the large turnout at a PR-organised event in Teluk Air Tawar, Butterworth last night that featured a strong line-up of speakers from all three opposition political parties.

Among those who spoke were PKR adviser Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and PKR deputy president Azmin Ali; PAS's No.2, Mohammad Sabu; and Lim's father and veteran DAP man, Kit Siang.

The National Feedlot Centre (NFC) scandal linked to Datuk Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil's family broke two months ago, after the release of the Auditor-General's Report for 2010.

Several Umno politicians, including former PM Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, have urged the women, family and community affairs minister to voluntarily step down from all her government posts after the scandal spread from the farmed lands in Negri Sembilan to the backwaters in Teluk Air Tawar, Butterworth last night.

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