

## **CM: State liquid assets rose by RM284m since 2008**

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**By Aaron Ngui**

GEORGE TOWN (Aug 22, 2011): The Penang government managed to increase the state's liquid asset by RM284 million since 2008.

Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng said the current administration managed to boost the the liquid assets from RM1.025 billion in 2008 to RM1.131 billion in 2010.

He said compared to this, the previous state administration had, from 2004 to 2007, only managed to increase liquid assets by RM143 million – from RM703 million to RM847 million.

"It took them four years to get (a total of) RM143 million but we managed to double that amount in just three years," Lim said in response to former Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon's assertion that Lim was claiming credit for the previous administration's successes and groundwork.

"Don't claim that we are doing nothing ... These are the results," Lim said at a press conference in his office in Komtar today.

Koh, who is now Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, led the state from 1990 until 2008.

Lim also questioned the Seberang Perai Municipal Council's (MPSP) total deficit of RM230 million accrued from 2000 to 2007 under the BN state government.

He said under the Pakatan Rakyat (PR) administration, MPSP managed to obtain a surplus of RM3 million, RM14 million and RM23 million in 2008, 2009 and 2010, respectively.

"They (BN) should explain how MPSP can lose over RM200 million in eight years. It is clear that PR was the one who managed to revive the MPSP," he said.

On an unrelated note, Lim said second phase of the RM100 pay-out under the Senior Citizens' Appreciation Programme can be collected from Maybank branches during office hours starting immediately.

He said more than 127,000, out of the estimated 135,000 senior citizens in the state, have already signed up for the programme.

He said any voter above the age of 60 in Penang can register for the benefits and receive the payment, including Koh, State Opposition Leader Datuk Azhar Ibrahim and State MIC chairman Datuk PK Subbaiyah.

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