

Guan Eng dares Tiong Lai, Yen Yen to contest in Bagan
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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 16 — Lim Guan Eng dared Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai today to back up his claim that MCA will unseat the DAP secretary-general as Bagan MP, asking the MCA deputy president to contest the federal seat.

The Penang chief minister told The Malaysian Insider that he would “only comment if Liow Tiong Lai or (Datuk Seri Dr) Ng Yen Yen stands in Bagan.”

Ng is MCA vice president and minister of tourism. MCA lost in all the seats contested in Penang in 2008.

“Otherwise, let him continue his boastful remarks. I don’t want to make such comments. I want to concentrate on my work in Penang for the people of Penang,” Lim said.

Yesterday, Liow (right) said Bagan voters were now “open to accept Barisan Nasional (BN)” despite Lim trouncing MCA’s Song Choy Leng by 22,070 votes in Election 2008.

The health minister added that MCA already had a candidate for Bagan who would give Pakatan Rakyat (PR) a run for its money.

Lim led his party’s state chapter to a historic win in Penang, which was one of the first states to fall into opposition hands during the 2008 political tsunami.

He won the Air Puteh state seat by 4,061 votes as PR whitewashed both MCA and Gerakan from the state assembly, ending the latter’s 40-year reign in the state.

In November last year, Gerakan president Tan Sri Koh Tsu Koon announced that he would not contest in the next polls, silencing calls from party members and the opposition for him to take on Lim in Bagan.

Analysts have repeatedly predicted Lim’s tenure would continue after the 13th general election due to his prudent management of the state and pursuit of his party’s competency, accountability and transparency (CAT) principles.

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