

Kit Siang says GE13 'dirtiest election in history'
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JOHOR BARU, April 29 — DAP veteran Lim Kit Siang has slammed efforts to portray him as the mastermind of the May 13 race riots 44 years ago after booklets making the allegations were found in the Gelang Patah constituency where he is contesting.

The Singapore Straits Times reported today that party members came across three different publications last Friday alleging his involvement in the May 13, 1969 riots that took place days after heated elections on May 10 in which racial and religious sentiments were stoked.

The race and religion card is being played once again, Lim, 72, told reporters yesterday morning.

According to the Singapore daily, he called the race-baiting accusations "the worst of its kind" and the election "the dirtiest election in history".

Several DAP members made a police report as the pamphlets violated election rules by not stating the name of a printer or publisher.

The daily said One of the booklets accused the DAP of being a proxy of Singapore's PAP to spread the influence of former Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew in Peninsular Malaysia.

The complaints came as sporadic incidents of violence were reported across the country, the newspaper said.

Yesterday, Lim urged his BN opponent for the seat, Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman, to address the issue of these publications which, he said, were defamatory.

Ghani told The Straits Times he had not seen those publications, but said the race card should not be played.

"We shouldn't use it at all. I don't know who did it but we shouldn't do it. We should stop it," the outgoing Johor menteri besar was quoted as saying.

A 26-page booklet seen by The Straits Times yesterday accused DAP leaders of attacking Islam and Malays. It also linked Lim to the 1969 riots. But Lim has said he was in Sabah when the riots took place.

The Straits Times reported that although it is not known who printed the booklets, fingers were pointed at Umno supporters. Online news portal Malaysiakini reported that BN campaigners were seen distributing the booklets last Friday.

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