

**If Tony Pua must resign before TV debate, so should 1MDB boss, says Guan Eng**  
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**By Looi Sue-Chern**

Should 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) president Arul Kanda Kandasamy resign from his post first before he debates with Public Accounts Committee (PAC) member Tony Pua, DAP asked today.

Party secretary-general Lim Guan Eng said since Arul Kanda had demanded that Pua resign from PAC first, the same should apply to the former.

"His condition for Pua, which is to resign from the PAC before they meet in the debate, is shocking. How can a person ask another to quit first before a debate? A debate should be held without conditions.

"If that is the logic, should we also demand that Arul Kanda resign (as president). It is illogical. What has his position in PAC got to do with the debate?" he asked during a press conference in George Town.

In a statement yesterday, Arul Kanda said Pua, who had recently challenged him to the live telecast debate, has to quit PAC to preserve the bipartisan committee's integrity in investigating 1MDB and avoid conflict of interest.

He reportedly said Pua could not be the judge, jury and executioner and trusted that Pua "will have the courage to do the right thing and resign from the PAC in order for us to have, in his words, a no-holds barred discussion on live television".

"Just have the debate and show that you have nothing to hide. This issue is important enough (to be debated on live television) so that the people can see whether you are telling the truth.

"The onus is not on Pua. He didn't borrow RM42 billion or have RM2.6 billion deposited into his personal bank account. No DAP leader has that... how I wish we have," he said jokingly to the media in Bukit Minyak, Penang today.

"The onus is on Arul Kanda to explain. If Pua loses in the debate and then told to resign, that is alright. But to demand he resigns first from the PAC before the debate even takes place, I think that is a cowardly act," Lim said.

Lim, who is also Penang chief minister, said it was a cowardly act because Arul Kanda wanted to force Pua to resign.

"He wants revenge. He knows that Pua is going to raise many questions when the PAC meets to discuss the 1MDB scandal," he said.

PAC is slated to meet next week on Monday.

Pua, who is DAP's Petaling Jaya Utara MP, is now under pressure again to quit from the PAC, which has been conducting its own probe into the debt-ridden 1MDB scandal, due to his outspokenness against the firm.

1MDB had several times taken the lawmaker to task for "recycling questions" directed at the state-owned investment firm. – October 30, 2015.

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