

DAP: BN had similar church, temple guidelines in Selangor
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While DAP is making quick steps to rectify the error, the same cannot be said of Selangor MCA, says DAP assemblyman.

PETALING JAYA: When Barisan Nasional (BN) formed the government in Selangor, MCA approved guidelines restricting the building of new non-Muslim places of worship, similar to the ones that have landed the current state government in hot water.

Hence, MCA should not be “throwing stones from glass houses” now that the Pakatan Harapan (PH) state government mistakenly included such guidelines in the third version of the Selangor Town and Country Planning Guidelines, said DAP’s Rajiv Rishyakaran.

“Selangor MCA had approved restrictive guidelines on places of worship during its time in the state government, pre-2008,” he said in a statement today.

“(These include) the rule that non-Muslim places of worship should not be built within 50 metres of a home owned by Muslims, and height restrictions, in the first and original Selangor Town and Country Planning Guidelines.”

The Bukit Gasing assemblyman also said while DAP’s state senior Exco member Teng Chang Khim had taken full responsibility for his oversight, and publicly apologised, MCA never did.

“While DAP has quickly owned up and is making quick steps to rectify the error, the same cannot be said of Selangor MCA, which endorsed these very same policies in its time as government.

“These requirements were taken away by the Pakatan Rakyat Selangor government in 2010, when it published the second edition of the Selangor Town and Country Planning Guidelines.”

Teng was reported to have offered to resign following the uproar against the state’s guidelines and planning standards restricting non-Muslim places of worship.

Teng said he had detected the error and instructed that amendments be made but did not double check to see if it was done.

Meanwhile, Rajiv also reminded MCA that it was still part of several state governments that had similar restrictive guidelines in place.

“Will MCA, MIC and Gerakan stop politicking and own up to this as well?”

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