

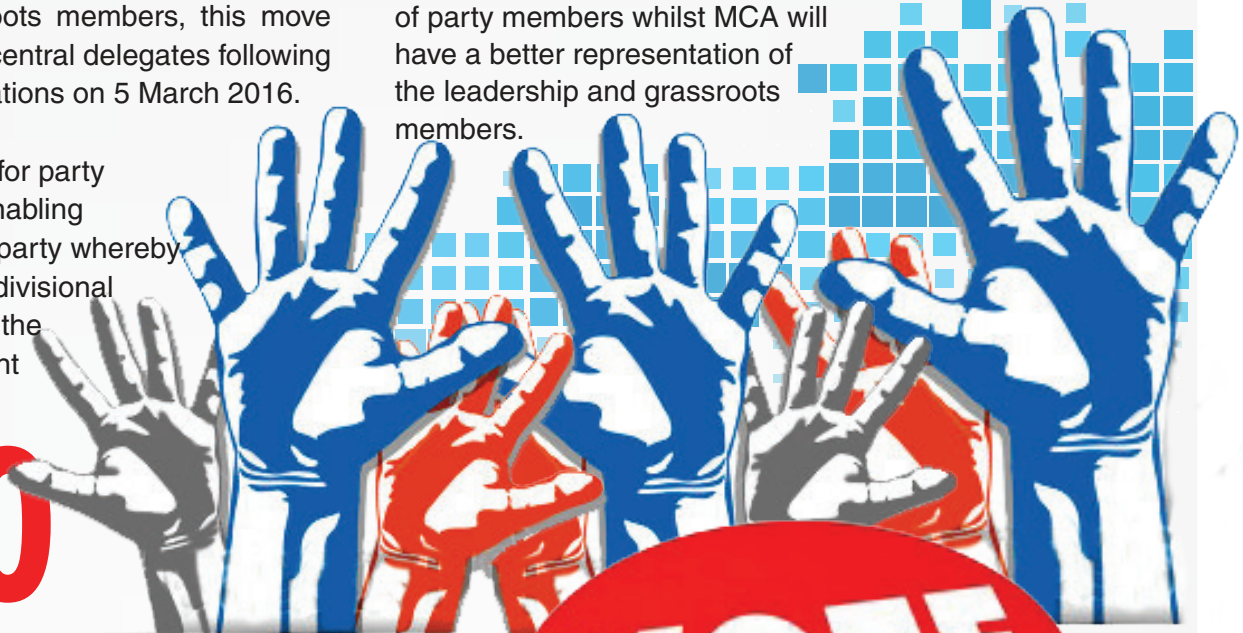


The MCA Central Committee (CC) is set to undertake a nationwide tour on the party's Transformation of Party Election & Enlarging Delegates Mechanism. Aimed at reaching out to a wider audience of MCA grassroots members, this move follows up on the Briefing for MCA central delegates following the party's 67th anniversary celebrations on 5 March 2016.

This plan to expand the voter-base for party polls is a seismic reform, thereby enabling greater democratic practices in the party whereby 32,000 grassroots members at the divisional level will gain voting rights to select the top party leadership from the present 2,385 central delegates.

Not intending to discredit the present 2,385 central delegates as the present system is still functional, the new voter expansion system will however reflect the aspiration of party members whilst MCA will have a better representation of the leadership and grassroots members.

32,000 MCA members to in Central Committee



Transformation of Party Election & Enlarging Delegates Mechanism Underway



Maintaining 1 to 7 vote ratio

The current popular vote used sees 3 major states ie Selangor, Perak and Johor alone contributing to 57% of the total number of ballots whereby the majority margin is wide enough to determine who next helms MCA.

Under the new electoral vote system, no division, not even the largest one, will get more than 7 votes, while the tiniest ones will get at least one voting right.

This method is more favourable since it is able to maintain the 7 times ratio under the current system, and will prevent small or medium divisions from being neglected for having fewer ballots.

EGM to be held

To effect this new Transformation of Party Election & Enlarging Delegates Mechanism, an Extraordinary General Meeting needs to be called since this method involves amendments to the party Constitution, whereby a majority vote by central delegates present during the EGM is required.



Filepic of MCA party election in progress

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ST
RONGER
TOGETHER...*The Publicity chief writes...*

MCA believes that for any political party to continue growing, we cannot lag in our comfort zone of stagnation. In contrast, MCA strives to remain relevant with time and trends.

To reflect these aspirations, the MCA leadership is mooted further democratisation within the party, and this can be carried out through none other than enabling balloting rights for the party's Central Committee to the Division level, thereby empowering 32,000 grassroots members from the current 2,385 central delegates during the party's elections.


A Briefing for central delegates was held on 5 March 2016 where not only were technical details of this revolutionary plan unveiled, central delegates had also fielded questions which were duly responded.

Also in the works to further reach out to English-speaking MCA members, plans are also underway to hold English language courses soon to be organised by the MCA School of Political Studies (SPS).

**Realising Moderation,
Build on Pragmatism**

While traditionally MCA's activities including SPS courses mainly focused on Chinese-speaking members, the new shift of attention towards English-speaking members indicates our party's continued rejuvenation and becoming more inclusive – vital ingredients of MCA keeping up with times. Moreover, such values certainly meet our party's theme of "Realising Moderation, Build on Pragmatism" whereby our approaches leverage on inclusivity, moderation, co-operation with all races to develop from strength to strength.

This issue of *The Guardian* also shows MCA in festive Chinese New Year mode of the Fire Monkey, where our annual celebrations continue to celebrate Malaysian diversity and hospitality by bringing people together.



Dato' Chai Kim Sen
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BENEFITS of the Expanded Delegates System



National Organising Secretary Datuk Yoo Wei How explaining the Transformation of Party Election & Enlarging Delegates Mechanism to the audience

1 Get Familiar

Paves the way for a direct election system and enables more members to get familiar with the party election system.

6 Strengthening Grassroots

The candidate running for central leadership posts will more aggressively go down to the ground. This should help in strengthening the ties between party leaders with the grassroots

2 Assistance & Support

It allows the party to access to assistance & support from grassroots members during general elections & by-elections

7 Overcome Problems

With more dormant branches reactivated, it will help the party overcome the current organisational problems and ultimately, also help us expedite the update process of members' details



Central delegates registering for the Briefing on 5 March 2016

3 Rejuvenates Branches

Rejuvenates inactive branches with more members from the branches actively striving to be divisional delegates.

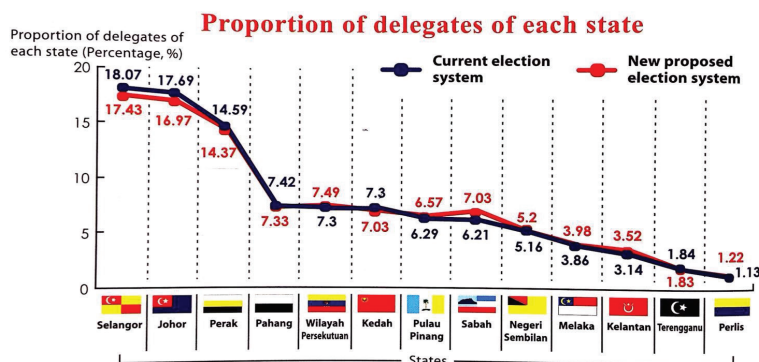
8 Representative

The central leaders elected are more representative

4 Gauge Public Sentiment

Such rejuvenated branches will be more actively involved in political work. This should help out party get closer to people on the ground and eventually help the party gauge public sentiment and opinion more accurately.

Will the new party election system benefit only a few states at the expense of others?



5 Transform Party

Empowers more members to vote for the top leadership. It serves our purpose to transform the party, while the elected leadership will reflect the needs and aspirations of the members and public.



The ADVANTAGES

of the divisional Electoral Votes System

1 Maintains Unity

Ensures the integrity and stability of any division. Under the "winner takes all" principle, the winning candidate will get all electoral votes of a division, this reduces splits within the divisions and maintains unity among our grassroots

2 Members Protected

Safeguards the rights and interests of all divisions, regardless of their size. E.g., divisions with fewer members will not be neglected although they have lesser popular votes; while the interest of divisions with more members will be protected since they have more divisional electoral votes

3 Transform Party

Narrows down the gap of votes among divisions. Under the current system, the smallest division has only 4 central delegates, while the biggest division holds 28 votes. However, if we apply the divisional popular vote system directly, the biggest MCA division has 30 times more votes than the smallest MCA division!



Moderation,

defending Chinese rights



Continued preservation of Chinese rights via keeping the identity of Chinese schools, the legacy of pluralism, upholding religious freedoms and all rights enshrined in the Federal Constitution, in addition to recognising that MCA must ensure its relevance to the Chinese community by making MCA appealing to youths were core themes contained in the speeches by MCA President Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai and Secretary-General Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan when commemorating MCA's party anniversary on 5 March 2016, one week after MCA turned 67 on 27 February 2016.

Conveying that "there is a direct and positive co-relation between MCA's ability to perform and the support it gets from the community," Tiong Lai showed that the needs of MCA and the Chinese are inseparable. Support from the Chinese towards MCA renders the community strength and presence at the federal and state-level governments. With MCA in the Executive, consultation with the Malaysian Chinese for inclusion in policy making and implementation in politics, economics, education and culture is greatly enhanced.

Urging MCA and other Chinese guilds and associations to have a common agenda for unity and political strength, the party President also stressed that MCA's outreach consistently aims to serve all Malaysians irrespective of ethnicity, thereby upholding the values of MCA founder Tun Sir Tan Cheng Lock that "MCA's motto is NOT for Chinese only but for all Malaysians." Tiong Lai's emphasis on moderation to overcome racial and religious extremism becomes more pertinent given the recent yet rapid spread of Daesh.



Call to Youths – Come plan the **future** with MCA

Ka Chuan accentuated the need for "more energetic young people to join MCA, to invite them to have a say in planning the future of party." This call shows MCA welcomes fresh ideas for party rejuvenation and ensures relevance towards the Chinese community and nation. Lampoons that MCA is a "cinapek" party whose membership comprises "uncles-and-aunties" type are thus unsustainable.

Taking the audience on a journey back in history, Ka Chuan reflected on Cheng Lock's aspirations for all multiracial Malaysians to work and live harmoniously together when he founded MCA. Lamenting that such "co-operation between races have been belittled as a form of racial betrayal by the younger generation," by drawing attention on MCA's success in securing citizenship for 2 million Malayan Chinese during our party's formative years, it is hoped that detractors who accuse MCA of "selling out" the Chinese community will halt overlooking MCA's citizenship drive for the Malayan Chinese as such struggles translate towards our rights and protection as Malaysian citizens which we enjoy today.



MCA ▶ fetes press corp at annual Media Nite

25 May 2016 saw 400 members of the mainstream, electronic, online and social media, and MCA Central Committee members letting their hair down as they mingled, dined karaoke-d on stage and contested in games during the party's annual Media Nite traditionally celebrated whilst Lunar New Year festivities still filled the air.

In his remarks, MCA President Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai noted that the mainstream media is still sought despite the speed and popularity of social media. "Many still go to the traditional media for confirmation after reading news spread in the social media." He encouraged "to uphold a culture of integrity, transparency and strong ethics at every level to enable the media industry to continue progressing." Deputy President Datuk Seri Dr Ir Wee Ka Siong crooned the audience with a Chinese serenade.

A game where media personnel had to decipher the identity of an MCA leader's silhouette kept them guessing until the identities were revealed.



"Calligraphy for Charity"

in Menara Multi-Purpose

Giving is more meritorious than receiving is a classical philosophy of Chinese. This concept is equivalent to modern western philosophy of Corporate Social Responsibility.

Menara Multi-Purpose Building Management or Huaren Resources Sdn Bhd, an entity within MCA, as part of its CSR project, held a "Calligraphy for Charity" from 16~17 Feb 2016 to benefit the Shepherd's Centre Foundation Malaysia, a center for abandoned and abused children located in Semenyih, Selangor.

Renowned Shenzhen calligrapher Zheng Huanqing, 64, on his maiden visit to Kuala Lumpur donated masterpieces for a token donation at Menara Multi-Purpose (MMP).

Response from MMP's tenants and calligraphy lovers around Klang Valley was enthusiastic in that RM4,441.00 was collected to benefit this charitable cause.

Zheng's specialty is in writing Xingshu calligraphy, which is more of a semi-cursive script and considered more abstract and artistic. He also does excellent Lishu (regular script) calligraphy. Every year in China, there is a selection for calligraphy writing. Zheng was selected to be in the top 100 in 2014 after being listed among the top 500 four years ago.

Text : By Goh Yew Boon



Not only is 2016 made special by the quadrennial leap year on 29 February 2016, this year's Lunar Year saw the exuberance of the Fire Monkey leaping into MCA

during the party's traditional Open

House on 8 Feb 2016, MCA Youth Gong Xi Fa Cai Nite on 17 Feb 2016 and the MCA Headquarters Back-to-Work Ceremony on 15 Feb 2016.

Some 5,000 members of the public including tourists from abroad thronged the festivities at Wisma MCA where the

MCA Central Committee led by party President Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai and Deputy President Datuk Seri Dr Ir Wee Ka Siong hosted Prime Minister Dato' Sri Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak and Deputy Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Ahmad Zahidi, Barisan Nasional component party leaders, the diplomatic corp, members of the Chinese guilds and associations, the media and other corporate figures.

Individual booths demonstrating Chinese calligraphy, pictorial fine cuttings in addition to cultural dances and performances by multi-racial artistes livened the merriment of the festivities which was telecast live by *RTM*, *Bernama* and *The Star*.

Lively Lunar New Year of the Fire Monkey leaps with MCA

A multiracial lion dance troupe kept audiences enthralled with its gravity-defying stunts on poles alongside with the Chai Shen Dao or God of Prosperity distributing chocolates to guests.

Festival Open Houses

Just as how the quintessential *yee sang* is tossed to herald in prosperity in abundance, the mixture of its ingredients are systemic of festival Open Houses – Malaysia's unique feature where all layers of society may mingle freely with Cabinet Ministers and other federal and state legislators where protocol or officialdom are set aside.



MCA Youth Gong Xi Fa Cai Nite 2016

The participation of youth NGOs at the party's Youth wing for the annual Gong Xi Fa Cai indicates the continued engagement by MCA Youth with the former and the attention the MCA Youth pays towards youth development.

MCA Youth chief

Senator Chong Sin Woon and his deputy Chris Lee hosted BN Youth chairman Khairy Jamaluddin and other former MCA Youth national chairmen to tossing the *yee sang*.



The eve of the Hokkien Sugarcane festival better known as *Pai Thnee Kong* or Jade Emperor festival on 15 Feb 2016 was made more auspicious as this was the day chosen by MCA Headquarters to resume work after a week-long holiday.

MCA HQ energised with or Back-to-Work Ceremony

Kai Gong



Lion and dragon dance performers "exchanged" fruits and vegetables of goodwill with MCA leaders at the lobby of Wisma MCA before proceeding to "bless" all floors where MCA HQ's various departments function.

With a child performer mimicking the antics of a real-life primate and other teenagers beating the cymbals and drums with vigour, this shows that the hours of training hones skill. Moreover, in all MCA CNY festivities, the presence of multiracial lion and dragon dance ensembles is a hallmark of Malaysia's interwoven ethnic fabric as it shows that culture permeates above all racial divides with the "masters" of each performing group extending open arms to non-Chinese crew to train and learn these arts. Non-Sino performers in any other lion and dragon dance troupes outside Malaysia are a rarity.



Note: Photos a combo of all CNY activities at MCA HQ

MCA's *Top 10* Significant Event in

2015 was an eventful year with many uncertainties. Yet despite that, MCA continued to stand firm in our responsibility as a ruling party, and will continue to seek solutions on political and economic issues, people's hardships and to push for progressive developments.

2015

★ East Coast Flood Relief Effort

In December 2014, the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia was hit by floods, causing tens of thousands to be displaced. MCA had promptly set up the "East Coast Flood Relief Fund", and operated the "East Flood Operation Centre" daily until the floods subsided in

January 2015. In that time, over RM5 million worth of donations and supplies were collected, and over 1,200 volunteers were mobilised to help in flood relief efforts.

MCA also launched the "Home Clean Home" and "Back to School" projects in the aftermath of the floods to help the victims. MCA also raised the issue in Cabinet which subsequently saw the announcement of a RM893 million flood mitigation programme, with another RM800 million allocated to rebuild the affected areas.



★ The Passing of Amendments to Implement Hudud Enactments in Kelantan

On 19 March, amendments tabled by the PAS Kelantan government to implement the Syariah Criminal Code (II) 1993 (Amendment 2015) Enactment were unanimously approved in the State Legislative Assembly. In the view that the implementation of hudud Enactments would disrupt national policies and cause far-reaching consequences to the Federal Constitution, MCA strongly voiced our opposition in Cabinet on 17 December 2014, 20 March 2015 and 27 March 2015.

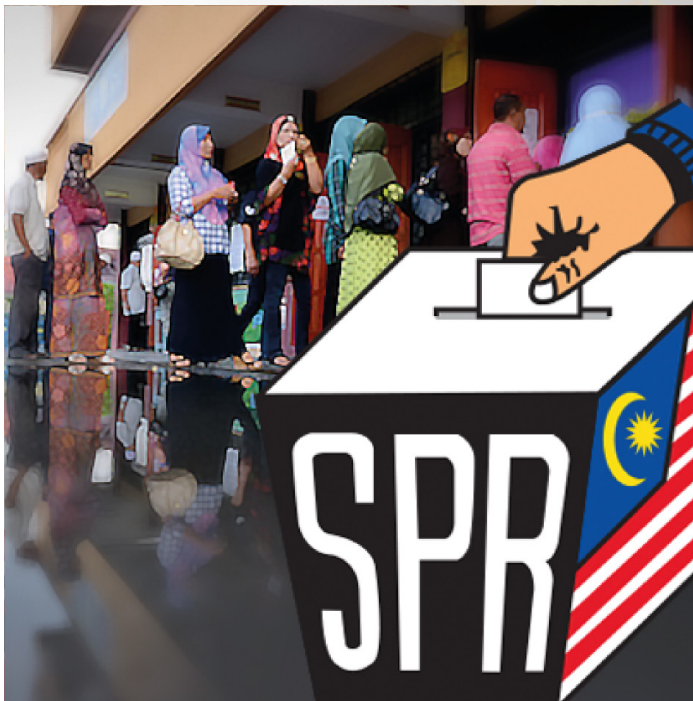


3

★ By-Elections

MCA campaigned for BN candidates in both the Rompin and Permatang Pauh by-elections held on 5 and 7 May 2015 respectively.

Although PKR had emerged triumphant in Permatang Pauh, the poll results indicated a slight return of Chinese votes to BN, whereas the significant support from the Chinese in Rompin secured BN's victory.



4

★ MCA Central Committee's Working Visit to China

From 8 -12 May, a delegation of MCA Central Committee members led by Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai accepted an invitation from the Communist Party of China to visit. Themed "Friendly Convergence and Pragmatic Cooperation", the aim of the visit was to deepen ties between governments, and to explore existing and potential business opportunities in various fields. The visit also achieved much in terms of party affairs, cadre training, education, economy, culture, aviation, and maritime.



6

★ OBOR China-Malaysia Business Dialogue

From 15-16 July, MCA and the China Economic Co-operation Centre (CECC) jointly organised the One Belt One Road (OBOR) China-Malaysia Business Dialogue in Beijing. Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai led Malaysia's 162-strong delegation comprising government and business representatives while CECC mobilised over 180 representatives from China's government, business and academic fields. The dialogue also witnessed the signing of seven Memorandum of Co-operations between businesses from both countries encompassing railway development, real estate, sports, bird's nest and durians.



5

★ RM50 Million Loan Fund for Chinese SMEs

In tabling Budget 2015, PM Dato' Sri Najib Razak announced a RM50 million allocation to Koperasi Jaya Diri (Kojadi) under MCA to serve as a low-interest loan fund for Chinese small-and-medium enterprises (SMEs). The launching ceremony for the fund was held on 5 June.



Continued from page 9 >>>

★ Cabinet reshuffle

On 28 June, a Cabinet reshuffle saw an additional Minister's and Deputy Minister's post allocated to MCA, whereby Secretary-General Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan was appointed as Minister of International Trade and Industry II, while Youth Chairman Senator Chong Sin Woon was made Deputy Education Minister.



★ MCA's 3-Prong Approach for Transformation

In response to the ever changing national economic landscape, MCA formed 10 focus groups to determine the new direction of the Chinese community in the fields of modern agriculture, neo-urbanisation, OBOR, vocational education, wood-based industry, SMEs, tourism, information technology, logistics, and financing. This led to the unveiling of the "10 Economic Strategic Directions" which is also one of the 3-prongs in MCA's Transformation Programme, along with the "Stronger Together" and "Harnessing Diversity Programme" campaigns.



8

★ Budget 2016

In August, MCA invited representatives and experts from various fields and associations to brainstorm on how the upcoming Budget 2016 needed to better reflect the peoples' wishes. The results were then compiled into a memorandum and submitted to the government, whereby its points on welfare for middle-income groups, SMEs, SJKCs and New Villages were included.



10

★ Allocation for SJKCs & Textbook Issues

In late October, it came to MCA's attention that some SJKCs had yet to receive their grant under Budget 2015. MCA immediately coordinated the disbursement of the remaining RM30 million out of the budgeted RM50 million to the relevant SJKCs by early November.

In early December, several SJKCs had received Bahasa Malaysia textbooks from the Education Ministry which were meant for national schools (SK), creating controversy within the Chinese community. On 4 December, the controversy came to an end when MCA met up with the Education Minister and the Cabinet, wherein both agreed that SJKCs will be allowed to have a different BM syllabus.





Lives at stake but DAP Exco Ean Yong Hian Wah's failure to ensure cleanliness persists. Dengue is now officially an epidemic in Selangor with the state health department recording 11,201 cases and 11 deaths in Selangor within the first seven weeks of 2016. The Ministry of Health recorded 13,306 cases between January and 2 March 2016 – the highest in Malaysia, whereby 18 out of the 55 dengue-linked deaths for the period came from Selangor. For the whole of 2015, Selangor recorded 64,198 dengue cases and 127 deaths, the highest number in Malaysia. Subang Jaya Municipal Council reported 10,508 cases in its locality, followed by Shah Alam City Council (8,160), Petaling Jaya City Council (7,751) and Klang Municipal Council (7,198).

Selangor exco for Local Government, Legalising of Factories and New Village Development Ean Yong Hian Wah must be criticised for his lackadaisical attitude in failing to ensure the healthcare and welfare of the people by combatting the rapid rise of dengue cases in Selangor. This level of incompetence is completely unacceptable.

The intensity of the dengue problem in Selangor is factual and had been on-going for years, no thanks to uncollected rubbish, clogged drainage system, stagnant pools of water and smelly back-lanes in every township which thus provide a conducive environment for the Aedes mosquitos to breed. Ean Yong's argument that the dengue outbreak might not be necessarily be correlated with the amount of rubbish everywhere serves to further confirm the garbage removal woes in Selangor.

Ever since Ean Yong took office, he has failed even in his most basic of responsibilities to ensure cleanliness. Under him, the people of Selangor have faced difficulties in local government issues, and now the dengue outbreak has aggravated the situation! We can only hope and pray that Malaysia will not be affected by the Zika virus which has been reported in Indonesia, Thailand and Japan, and, even if Zika is detected in Malaysia, one does not need to twitch an eyelid to trace its source to the congested ditches of Selangor.

Researchers say Zika case found in Indonesia

AFP | 31 January 2016 14:20



Geovane Silva holds his son Gustavo Henrique, who has microcephaly, at the Oswaldo Cruz Hospital in Recife, Brazil, January 26, 2016. Image by: UESLEY MARCELINO / REUTERS

An Indonesian research institute said Sunday it had found one positive Zika case on Sumatra island, adding that the virus has been circulating in the country "for a while".

Instead of trying to find excuses to shirk his responsibility, Ean Yong will do better to tackle the ever-growing problems of rubbish strewn about and piling up, stagnant and polluted water, and the lack of basic cleanliness endured by Selangor residents.

Malaysia certainly can do better without such over-paid politician like Ean Yong who ignores the rakyat's predicament and is only good at quibbling.

Penang's environment & heritage **endangered**

Despite promising to "preserve Penang's forests, wetlands and bio-diversity" in 2008, the DAP state government continues to launch many development projects at the cost of Penang's environment, with the RM27billion Penang Transport Master Plan (PTMP) being the biggest and the most controversial.

The land reclamation projects on the south of Penang Island under the PTMP has received much criticism from Barisan Nasional, various nature societies and NGOs for causing much hardship for the locals, especially the fishermen who are now forced to travel further and longer for their livelihood, which in turn consumes extra costs.

Land reclamation also threatens the Middle Bank; a sea grass bed which is home to various marine life and a breeding ground for fish.

Civil War

Even DAP's allies in PKR have been at loggerheads with the state government, causing five PKR state assemblymen to not vote against BN's motion to discuss the reclamation projects; two of whom were later sacked from their positions in the state GLCs. The DAP state government has also gone head to head with its own people, such as DAP Tanjung Bungah state assemblymen Teh Yee Cheu and Pulau Tikus assemblyman Yap Soo Huey, both of whom had opposed the rampant development of Bukit Relau, and more recently, Berapit assemblyman Lydia Ong who objected to the possible acquisition of land from the Penang Chinese Girls' High School for the PTMP. Yet, despite all these objections, DAP had allowed land reclamation to continue, and even resorting to blaming the previous state government with the excuse that the state government will go bankrupt to pay off compensations if they halt these projects.

Besides destroying greenery, uncontrolled rampant development has also threatened Penang's heritage, with colonial buildings such as Khaw Sim Bee Mansion and the 218 Macalister Mansion being destroyed to make way for luxury projects without going through proper procedures or consultation with heritage conservationists. In fact, DAP Local Government Exco Chow Kon Yeow deployed a loophole by declaring that the plot where Runnymede is built remains outside the George Town World Unesco Heritage site, to condone its destruction. Even worse, only either limited action, or none at all, was taken on these developers, thus strengthening the opinion that the state government is blind and deaf to the people's needs, and are only seeking to enrich themselves. Depriving fishermen of livelihoods, restricting schoolgirls sport activities, killing heritage which may cause George Town to lose its Unesco heritage status - ultimately we must question, who profits from these mega-projects by DAP? The people? Or DAP's ego?

Losing its Unesco heritage listing ?

BEFORE



No. 9 Brook Road (Before Demolition)

AFTER



No. 9 Brook Road (After Demolition)

BEFORE



Khaw Sim Bee Mansion

AFTER



Khaw Sim Bee Mansion after demolition

BEFORE



Runnymede Hotel

AFTER



Runnymede Hotel after demolition