



MAJLIS PERBANDARAN AMPANG JAYA
BAHAGIAN PERHUBUNGAN AWAM DAN SEKRETARIAT
MENARA MPAJ, JALAN PANDAN UTAMA,
PANDAN INDAH, SELANGOR,
55100 KUALA LUMPUR

KERATAN AKHBAR
31 JANUARI 2018 (RABU)

AKHBAR

MUKA SURAT

The Star

- Pandan MCA chief wants debate challenge over school issue 04



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Pandan MCA chief wants debate challenge over school issue

By YVONNE NATHAN
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BRING it on, that was the response to a call to debate the delay in the construction of a Chinese primary school in Taman Lembah Maju in Pandan.

Pandan MCA chief Datuk Leong Kok Wee agreed to have an open debate with Teratai assemblyman Tiew Way Keng over the delay in the construction of SRJK(C) Choon Hwa.

"Relocation of the school from Hulu Langat Batu 18 to Taman Lembah Maju to the 1.21ha plot of land was approved in 2012 by former deputy prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin," said Leong.

However, after an application to the Ampang Jaya Municipal Council (MPAJ) for planning approval was (turned down, Leong claims the project was put on hold for political reasons.

"We submitted our application to MPAJ in the beginning of 2017 and received two letters of rejection in August from the Town Planning and Engineering Departments.

"It listed 17 reasons for the rejection of our application, 15 of which were technical reasons.

"The total land size is actually 3.72ha of school reserve land from



Leong showing a letter from MPAJ rejecting the planning approval for SRJK(C) Choon Hwa.

which we only got approval to use 1.21ha.

"But now MPAJ expects us to explain the usage for the remaining 2.42ha. We received another letter in December last year to get consent from the Land and Mines Department and Education Ministry before we are to submit building plans for the school.

Leong said the requirement that the school be built on a minimum of 2.02ha to adhere to state govern-

ment guidelines was odd.

"Approvals were given to build Chinese primary schools in Puchong and Bukit Serdang on 1.21ha plot of land at about the same time we submitted our application, and both these schools are already built.

"In December 2017, the state government also approved the building of a Chinese primary school in Kuala Langat where the total land available was 2.27ha but

only 1.21ha was allocated and it was approved.

"So it completely conflicts with MPAJ's previous claims on the Selangor government's guidelines requiring a minimum of 2.02ha for a new school.

Leong said the current Selangor government promised to build eight Chinese primary schools in the state when they won in 2008, but they had yet to build any.

He said among the eight was a school in Pandan Perdana, meant to occupy a 2.02ha land previously used as a driving range.

Leong suggested holding the debate at any time from Feb 5 to end of March.

"I suggest the venue of the debate be in the Pandan area, I do not mind any other area but it must be agreeable to both parties.

A petition to collect signatures to build the school will be carried out with the target of getting at least 30,000 signatures.

The Pandan Choon Hwa Walk will be held on Feb 4 at 7am to raise awareness on the urgent need for another Chinese primary school.

MPAJ public relations officer Norhayati Ahmad said the plans to build a Chinese primary school on the plot of land in Pandan Perdana

was originally part of the state government's manifesto.

However, the land was designated as reserved land for a community space, which the council used to build a mini stadium.

As for SRJK(C) Choon Hwa, MPAJ president Abdul Hamid Abdul Hussain said the application was rejected as the council received incomplete documents and not all the requirements were met.

Elaborating on the 2.02ha guideline to build a school in Selangor, he said if there was only 1.21ha with no surrounding land then the application would have been considered.

"We have requested plans for what the other 2.4ha of land will be used for as we do not want any problems in the future.

"If we approve the application without taking into consideration the future projects around the site, then the students and parents will wonder why MPAJ allowed for a school to be built with minimal facilities, such as a field, when there is another 2.4ha surrounding it.

He added that the council was still discussing with the relevant parties and was willing to approve the application so long as the guidelines were met.