

D801

U E524 AAE
PM-CHENG KIAT
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 26 (BERNAMA) -- ENCICK NG CHENG KIAT WILL CONTINUE TO BE HEALTH MINISTER AS THE PRIME MINISTER HAS NOT MADE ANY DECISION PERTAINING TO HIS POSITION IN THE CABINET.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID ENCICK NG HAD MET HIM YESTERDAY, MERELY EXPRESSING HIS DESIRE TO RESIGN. THERE THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL LETTER, HE ADDED.

+AT THE MOMENT, THERE IS NO NEED FOR ME TO DECIDE ANYTHING AS HE HAS NOT YET RESIGNED,+ HE TOLD REPORTERS AFTER OPENING A SYMPOSIUM ON WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS HERE TODAY.

YESTERDAY, ENCICK NG ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO RESIGN FROM HIS MINISTERIAL POST AS HE CLAIMED HE COULD NOT ACCEPT THE LEADERSHIP OF MCA PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR LING LIONG SIK. HE RESIGNED AS MCA SECRETARY-GENERAL A WEEK EARLIER.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE HAD ADVISED ENCICK NG NOT TO MAKE ANY STATEMENT OVER THE MATTER FOR THE TIME BEING AND LEFT THE DECISION TO HIM.-- MORE.

1515MST 26 07 90

D806

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PM-CHENG KIAT 2 KUALA LUMPUR

ASKED WHETHER ENCICK NG WOULD BE DROPPED FROM THE CABINET AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR REPLIED, +WE DON'T KNOW YET...MAYBE, WE'LL SEE.+

HE SAID DATUK SERI DR LING HIMSELF ALSO DID NOT DISCUSS WITH HIM REGARDING ENCICK NG'S INTENTION TO RESIGN.

ON THE ELECTION WATCH, HE SAID THEY HAD YET TO OFFICIALLY INFORM THE GOVERNMENT OF THEIR STAND ON THE COMMONWEALTH OBSERVER FOR THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

SO FAR, HE SAID, HE HAD ONLY MET DAP SECRETARY-GENERAL ENCICK LIM KIT SIANG AND THE PARTY HAD AGREED TO IT. -- BERNAMA.

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