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Gerakan-elections

CONSENSUS TO PREVAIL IN THE RUN-UP TO GERAKAN ELECTIONS

KUALA LUMPUR, March 31 (Bernama) -- Gerakan President Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik has ruled out a tussle for top posts in the party elections later this year.

"I am sure they (the leadership) will come out with some form of consensus as usual," he told a news conference at the new Gerakan headquarters at Menara Parti Gerakan Rakyat Malaysia (PGRM) in Cheras here today.

Dr Lim had earlier chaired the party Central Committee (CC) meeting, the first to be held at the new 14-storey building.

The Gerakan president said he did not expect much problems "because Gerakan is a very diciplined and a united party".

"Although according to democratic principles, anyone can stand (contest), the consensus and the discussions at the leadership level has always been good," he said.

However, he made it clear that only members who have paid their dues and have not breached party dicipline could contest in the elections.

The Gerakan elections will be held simultaneously with the party's national delegates conference on Sept 14 at Dewan Wawasan, Menara PGRM. The meeting to be attended by about 1,500 delegates will be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Dr Lim however said there could be some changes at the state level.

On party matters, Dr Lim said all the 1,346 branch chairmen will get the certified membership list of their respective branches from the headquarters on Sunday.

He said branch elections will have to be completed by the end of May to allow for elections at divisional level in June. This will be followed by state party elections in July and August.

Dr Lim also said the party's new headquarters will be officially opened on May 25 to be followed by a dinner which will be attended by Dr Mahathir, who is the Barisan Nasional chairman, and component party leaders.

Later, Dr Lim took reporters and photographers on a tour of the building. -- Bernama

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