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Ling confident of BN coalition's win

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik is confident that the Barisan Nasional will be able maintain its two-thirds majority in the forthcoming general election.

Dr Ling, who is also Transport Minister, said the coalition will be returned with the same huge mandate as in the last polls as the opposition pact was in disarray.

"The opposition pact is a marriage of convenience. They are strange bedfellows, each with their own dreams but sharing the same bed," he said after opening the MCA Selangor State Convention at MCA headquarters today.

Dr Ling said voters should support Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and the BN to show him their gratitude as he had saved the country from the economic crisis.

"Voters should vote for the BN for continued progress," he said.

On MCA party elections, he said delegates voted in a good team three years ago.

"I hope this year, the delegates will vote to retain this team," he said.

Asked about the Singapore Business Times editorial, Dr Ling said Singapore newspapers should look at the situation in their own country before making comments about the political situation of neighbouring countries.

Meanwhile, MCA deputy treasurer-general Datuk Loke Yuen Yow said he was still running for the MCA Youth chairman post, and dispelled Chinese Press reports that the candidates for the coming Youth wing elections had already been pre-determined to avoid contests.

"I would like to stress that I have not withdrawn my candidacy for the post," Loke, who is MCA Youth deputy chairman and also Deputy Youth and Sports Minister said.

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