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Ling-NEAC

LING TO ASK THE 11 CHINESE ASSOCIATIONS TO RECONSIDER JOINING NEAC II

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 13 (Bernama) -- MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said today that he will persuade the 11 Chinese associations which have declined to join the National Economic Action Council II (NEAC II) to reconsider their decision.

"I have told the Cabinet meeting today that I will personally appeal to all 11 Chinese associations which declined to join the NEAC II to reconsider their decision," he told reporters at his office, here.

He said that even though the Chinese community was represented in the NEAC II by political parties and chambers of commerce, the contribution of the associations concerned was vital in the formulation of government policies pertaining to the interest of the various communities.

The 11 Chinese associations could help the government reach a better decision or plan a better policy on issues of interest to the Chinese community in the country, he said.

The associations are the United Chinese School Committees Association of Malaysia (Dong Zong), the United Chinese School Teachers Association of Malaysia (Jioa Zong), the United Chinese School Alumni Association of Malaysia, the Nanyang University Alumni Association of Malaysia, the Taiwan Graduates Alumni Association of Malaysia.

The Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall, the Federation of Guandong Associations of Malaysia, the Federation of Guangxi Associations of Malaysia, the Federation of Sanjiang Associations of Malaysia, the Federation of Fuzhou Associations of Malaysia and the Huazi Research Centre.

The NEAC II, launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Aug 4, has 155 members representing the various levels of society.

Ling, who is Transport Minister, said that the Cabinet also discussed the issue on the merger of banks and financial institutions, stressing on the welfare of workers.

He said that the Cabinet members were unanimous in their views that the welfare of workers must be given priority in the merger exercise.

The Cabinet, he said, felt that workers should benefit from the merger process just like the better benefits enjoyed by the workers through the privatisation of several government entities.

However, he said, if there were found to be duplication of duties and retrenchment was inevitable, the government would ensure that the workers involved would be given satisfactory compensation.

-- BERNAMA

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