

15 JUN 1999

MCA-lobby

MCA FORBIDS LOBBYING FOR CANDIDACY IN GENERAL ELECTION

KUALA LUMPUR, June 15 (Bernama) -- MCA Members of Parliament and assemblymen have been asked not to lobby to be retained as candidates in the general election, its secretary-general Datuk Dr Ting Chew Peh said today.

"The question of who is going to be the candidate is not important. More important is the preparations to ensure the Barisan Nasional (BN) emerged victorious in the polls," he said.

He said all the 114 MCA elected representatives including 32 MPs have been instructed to work hard and not to lobby for candidacy.

Selection of candidates had been left to MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, he told reporters after launching the Love Malaysia Consumer and Trade Fair '99 Expo promotion for developers, here.

Asked on speculations that he would vie for the Number Two post in the July 17 party election, he said, "all posts in MCA are important."

He said party leaders must work as a team and give undivided support to the president and deputy president to steer MCA to greater heights.

Dr Ting also said the party had issued guidelines to curb money politics in the polls and to prevent aspiring candidates from resorting to overzealous actions to drum up support.

Party hopefuls have been barred from treating members to free lunches, dinners and vacational holidays in efforts to fish for votes.

So far, no complaints had been received on money being used to buy votes, said Dr Ting, who is also the election coordination committee chairman.

Nomination has been fixed for July 12.

-- BERNAMA

NHD TS