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Working together on COF issue

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HOUSING and Local Government Minister Datuk Dr Ting Chew Peh said that his ministry will have to discuss matters and work closely with the Works Ministry in issuing certificate of fitness licence to housing developers. He said this in response to grievance raised by Works Minister Datuk S. Samy Vellu in Sungai Siput yesterday that housing developers must build interchanges for residence.

Samy Vellu also urged local authorities that they should act against errant developers by not issuing certificate of fitness until they build the required interchanges as they were necessary to ensure smooth traffic flow following an increase in the number of road users due to new housing projects.

Dr Ting told newsmen after officiating the 13th anniversary dinner the Jee Gong Buddha in Petaling Jaya yesterday the matter will be discussed with the Works Ministry as the issuance of licence also depends on many other factors like the surrounding environment. "I am not sure it will affect all the projects maybe just certain projects may have to be differed," he said adding that under existing laws housing developers will have to comply by all the guidelines by the local authorities before a project can takeoff.

Meanwhile, Dr Ting who is also the secretary general of MCA said that the party will give a hundred per cent support to the Barisan Nasional election effort in Sabah even if the party is not given any seats in the up coming state general assembly election.

He added that currently the MCA's sole member in the Sabah general assembly is Datuk Chau Tet Onn the assemblyman for the Api-Api constituency and the party will leave to the discretion of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohammad if it should be given any seats to contest.

Asked on the rational for MCA to have a presence in Sabah considering that there were already two Chinese based party there namely the Sabah Progressive Party and the Liberal Democratic Party, Dr Ting said that the feedback from Sabah shows that the presence of MCA is welcomed by the locals.

"We already have 20,000 strong party members in Sabah," he said adding that plans for any MCA party elections will take a secondary role as the general election is of paramount importance to MCA and Barisan Nasional.

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