

06/06/2000

Dr Ling back home from Australia, question remains

Chow Kum Hor

SEPANG, Mon. - MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik arrived home tonight from Australia but refused to say whether he would remain as Transport Minister.

"Give me a few days," said Dr Ling when asked by reporters upon his arrival at KLIA.

He was also tight-lipped when asked if he would make an announcement regarding his decision soon or whether he would meet Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tomorrow.

Wearing a red shirt and a black jacket, Dr Ling looked cheerful when he arrived at the airport about 10.15 pm.

Over 1,000 party members and supporters, some of whom had waited for over two hours, were there to welcome Dr Ling.

Among those at the airport to greet him were vice-presidents Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting, Datuk Fong Chan Onn, Datuk Chua Jui Meng, Datuk Chan Kong Choy and secretary-general Datuk Ting Chew Peh.

Later, Fong told reporters that Dr Ling had indicated to party leaders that he had already made up his mind, although Dr Ling did not say what the decision was.

On May 22, Dr Ling announced his decision to quit the Cabinet, insisting that it was final. But Dr Ling was told to "think things over" during a meeting with the Prime Minister two days later.

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