

13/12/2000

`Hope everyone understood PM's explanation'

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik today said he hoped everyone understood the Prime Minister's explanation for rejecting Suqiu's demands.

Dr Ling, who is also Transport Minister, said this after receiving a courtesy call from Sri Lankan Aviation and Airports Development Minister Jeyaraj Fernadopulle at his office.

Asked whether MCA would take any action following Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's explanation, he said it was not necessary.

Yesterday, the Prime Minister had said the Government could not entertain demands by Suqiu as it was tantamount to abolishing Malay rights and could result in chaos.

Dr Mahathir said this in Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

Suqiu, which is the acronym for Malaysian Chinese Organisation's Election Appeals Committee, claims to have more than 2,095 affiliated associations.

Meanwhile the Federation of Chinese Associations Malaysia today appealed to all leaders in the country to exercise restraint in their statements and avoid discussing sensitive issues in the open.

Its president Tan Sri Chong Chin Shoong said the things uttered in public should not cause damage to the country's racial harmony.

"We must address sensitive issues behind closed doors and solve them amicably."

(END)