

# Ling: MCA has no room for destructive politics

STAR : 5 DEC 2001

SUNGAI PETANI: There is no room for destructive politics in MCA and every member must help to take the party to greater heights. MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said.

"All my colleagues in the MCA, those who are with me, have not raised one finger to criticise or try to destroy the party's image. We are only builders, we are constructors," he said.

He said there was only place for "serious constructive politics in the party and not destructive politics, criticising others."

Dr Ling said he and his colleagues were looking at the country's national agenda and finding ways to help the country recover faster from the economic constraints.

"We go round explaining our educational agenda, how schools should be quickly built, Tunku Abdul Rahman college's expansion even to Sabah and how Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman will benefit the youths of this country," he said.

He said his team was also looking at the country's security agenda by explaining to people the ill effects of terrorism and why the Internal Security Act was important.

"This is our constructive agenda, whereas the other side, I am very sorry they are only indulging in name smearing, destructive and non-constructive politics.

"I do not want to comment more.

"I think the members will know what to do at the party's elections early next year," he told reporters after visiting the construction site of the new SRJK (C) Tai Tong school at Ta-

man Kempas, here, yesterday.

He was asked to comment on fears by certain quarters that if the current division within the party was prolonged it would damage MCA's image.

-When asked on MCA Youth chief Datuk Ong Tee Keat's private meeting with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the Kepala Batas airport in

Kedah on Thursday, Dr Ling said he was not aware of the meeting but said that if the Prime Minister had the opportunity to advise, he would stress on the need to maintain unity in the party.

Ong, who is Deputy Youth and Sports Minister, met Dr Mahathir briefly before the Prime Minister visited the hospital at Jitra.

Ong had told reporters the meet-

ing was over a personal matter.

On the new SRJK (C) Tai Tong school, Dr Ling said he was happy with the fast construction work.

He said the RM1.6mil school built on a 2.6ha site, would be ready in January on time when school reopened, adding that the old school in Padang Temesu lacked proper facilities and was not conducive to pupils.