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Ling denies talk on MCA representation

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KUALA LUMPUR, Fri: MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik has denied talk that the MCA is seeking some minor changes to its representation in the government.

Dismissing it as "unfounded rumours without any basis", Ling said today he does not understand why people create such untruths.

"All the MCA ministers are capable leaders who have discharged their duties well," he said, adding that the MCA has no wish to change the present line-up.

Asked whether the rumours were generated by certain quarters who wished to destabilise the party, Ling said: "I don't think so."

"I think someone is mischievous ... one naughty journalist, that's all. It came from the newspapers, and not from anyone else."

To a question on whether it is possible for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to change the MCA representation without informing him, Ling said: "Technically, the prime minister does not need to tell me about it."

"But the MCA and Umno have a very good relationship, and I believe the prime

minister will not do any reshuffle without discussing it with me."

The MCA has four ministers, six deputy ministers, and two parliamentary secretaries.

Earlier, Ling met with Bavaria Minister of Econo-

mic Affairs, Transport and Technology Dr Otto Weisheu and his delegation at his office.

Ling, who is also the transport minister, said he asked Weisheu to persuade German carrier Lufthansa to fly to Malaysia again.

The airline had had temporary ceased flying to Malaysia because of the economic downturn.

He also requested Weisheu to convey to the German government Malaysia's wish for a more liberal aviation agreement.