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MCA-Lim

NO MCA CRISIS IF PRESIDENT HAD HEEDED PM'S ADVICE, SAYS LIM

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 24 (Bernama) -- MCA deputy president Datuk Lim Ah Lek said today the party would not have ended up with a crisis if party president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik had heeded Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's advice.

He said Dr Mahathir, at the last Barisan Nasional (BN) supreme council meeting, had advised all the BN leaders to settle their internal problems amicably.

"Dr Mahathir even said that the winner should not take all and the loser should not lose all,

"Even though he did not specifically refer to anyone, it was very obvious that he was referring to the MCA and that they have to settle the problem internally and amicably," he said when contacted here today.

He was asked to comment on Dr Mahathir's remarks last night in response to reporters' questions on the crisis in the MCA and the suspension of its Youth central committee headed by Ong Tee Kiat.

Dr Mahathir had said, among other things, that he had asked both Ong and Dr Ling not to be too hard on each other.

Lim, who welcomed Dr Mahathir's advice as timely, said that if Dr Ling had heeded the prime minister's advice given at the last BN supreme council meeting, he would not have removed Datuk Chua Jui Meng as the Kedah MCA liaison chief.

"Even if he had to appoint another person to head the Kedah MCA, he could still have appointed Chua as the Johor MCA deputy liaison chief when the post fell vacant following Datuk Ong Ka Ting's decision not to seek reappointment," he said.

He said Dr Ling should learn from the prime minister and Umno president's leadership in solving the Umno crisis in 1987 where Dr Mahathir had accepted the splinter group, Semangat 46. back into the Umno fold.

-- BERNAMA

AT RZS JK