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No rush to fill Utar vice-chancellor post

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. - The Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (Utar) steering committee is scouting for candidates for the vice-chancellor's post, MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said today.

He said there was no need to rush to fill the post as the committee wanted qualified and able people to head the university.

"Harvard University took nine months and interviewed over 500 candidates before narrowing down its list for the vice-chancellor's post," said Dr Ling, who is also Transport Minister.

He was speaking after the Tunku Abdul Rahman College convocation ceremony in Setapak.

Dr Ling, the college council chairman, said the steering committee had started interviewing prospective candidates for the top post.

"The university is expected to take in its pioneer batch of students next May or June.

They will be temporarily based at The Star's old office in Section 13," he said.

When asked about fears that Islamisation would gain momentum following the announcement that Malaysia was an Islamic State, Dr Ling said the worries were unfounded.

"I can give an assurance that the Constitution will not be amended towards that end."

Dr Ling said he subscribed to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's views that in an Islamic State, substance was more important than form.

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