

20 DEC 2001

Ong-Future

ONG DOES NOT SEE SUSPENSION AS END TO POLITICAL CAREER

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 20 (Bernama) -- MCA Youth chief Datuk Ong Tee Keat, the man mainly blamed for the movement's Aug 3 fracas, said he does not see his possible suspension by the party central committee (CC) as marking the end of his political career.

Ong, who is the Deputy Minister of Youth and Sports, said he was prepared to face whatever decision affecting his political future that would come out from today's meeting of the party's central committee.

"Certainly I am aware of that (impending decision), including the possibility of suspension," he told reporters at his office at the Youth and Sports Ministry here today.

Ong said even current MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik himself was once expelled from the party in 1983 but the expulsion did not end Ling's political career.

Ong maintained that should the central committee decide to suspend or even expel him, such a move would only set back efforts to resolve the party's prevailing problem.

Ong also said he met Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad recently in Alor Setar and briefed the Prime Minister on the Aug 3 fracas at the movement's annual general meeting.

Ong said he told the prime minister that he was not party to the incident.

"I am very grateful that I was given an opportunity to meet him and I thank the PM for his kind advice and concern," Ong said, dismissing speculation suggesting that he had been reprimanded by the prime minister.

-- BERNAMA

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