

24 DEC 2001

MCA-Indera Kayangan

SEVEN MCA STATE YOUTH CHIEFS DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR BY-ELECTION

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 24 (Bernama) -- Seven state MCA Youth chiefs met here today to discuss preparations for the forthcoming Indera Kayangan state by-election.

The spokesman of the group, Hang Chin Peng, said that the meeting was held at the office of one of their members and was attended by seven state Youth chiefs. Penang and Perak sent representatives.

"Only Perlis, Sabah, Kedah and Pahang did not send their delegates. Some members like the Sabah Youth chief was outside the country on vacation," he said when contacted.

He said that the meeting was chaired by Datuk Ch'ng Toh Eng who is also the Selangor MCA Youth chief and among the agenda was preparations for the Indera Kayangan state by-election.

"We held this meeting following the rejection of Datuk Ong Tee Keat to lead the MCA's campaign team as announced by the special committee," he said.

He said the meeting was held to ensure a positive perspective for the MCA Youth's campaign team as they wish to go out in full swing on the campaign trail.

"We are actually dissappointed over Datuk Ong's rejection to lead the MCA's campaign team. We actually want to be one team, don't want to appear divided into two teams, Team A or Team B," he said.

Hang said that by accepting the appointment of the party's Special Committee to lead the MCA's campaign team, Ong would be in keeping with his promise to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to resolve the crisis in the party with sincerity.

"We hope he will change his mind to lead the team, that is only one MCA team," he said.

On Dec 22, the Special Committee appointed by the party's Central Committee to take over the MCA Youth's Central Committee has appointed Ong to lead the MCA Youth's campaign team.

The appointment was announced by the three-member committee comprising Wang Choon Wing, Datuk Hon Choon Kim and Datuk Poh Ah Tiam in a statement released to the media here.

However, in an immediate response, Ong rejected the appointment as he will lead the campaign in the Indera Kayangan by-election in his capacity as Barisan Nasional Youth vice-chairman.

-- BERNAMA

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