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Youth leaders sceptical of Ong's sincerity

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - MCA Youth leaders aligned to party president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik today said they were sceptical of movement head Datuk Ong Tee Keat's sincerity in wanting to resolve the problems in the wing despite his assurances to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Reinstated movement secretary-general Yew Teong Look said based on past experience, Ong had gone back on his word before.

"We welcome Ong's resolve in wanting to solve the problems in MCA Youth but we hope he is sincere.

"Sometimes, he says one thing and does another," said Yew at a Press conference.

Also present were MCA Youth reinstated vice-chief Loh Seng Kok, auditor-general Chen Joo Kan, Cheras deputy Youth chief Lee Boon Kok and former national Youth organising secretary Hang Chin Pheng.

Ong met Dr Mahathir last Thursday at the Sultan Abdul Halim Airport in Jitra, Kedah.

On Sunday, when asked by reporters, Dr Mahathir said Ong had told him in the meeting that he wanted to resolve the problems in the movement and that he (Dr Mahathir) supported it.

Yew conceded that one way to solve the problem is through next year's party election.

Asked if Ong had contacted him since the meeting with the Prime Minister, Yew said the Youth chief had not spoken to any of the Team A leaders since the Dec 8 Youth central committee meeting.

On this Thursday's MCA central committee meeting, Yew said he would leave it to the CC to decide on any form of disciplinary action against himself or Ong.

Ong, Yew and MCA Youth assembly speaker Lim Hong Sang had been censured by the party's veterans committee for the movement's Aug 3 annual general meeting fracas.

Yew and Lim were also accused of premeditating the fracas which saw chairs flying, a bomb hoax and rowdy behaviour among delegates and Youth CC members.

"I leave it to the CC to decide. I hope they will understand that I was merely tabling a motion to change the assembly speaker.

"I will respect the CC's decision," said Yew, who is also MCA CC member.

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