

Ka Ting: I am not a stumbling block

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V-P says he's not against peace agenda

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KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. MCA vice-president Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting today denied rumours that he was a stumbling block to the peace process in the party.

"I have never been an obstacle to peace. I have always been for peace and unity. That was clear even dur-

ing the time when I spoke on the Nanyang purchase. I spoke for unity and peace in the party," said Ong, who is Housing and Local Government Minister.

He added that lately, certain irresponsible quarters had spread rumours that he was the one against the Prime Minister's agenda for peace and stability although president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik was agreeable to it.

Dr Ling is the head of MCA Team A. Ong is perceived as his successor. "I have always stood behind Dr Ling and have high respect for him," Ong said, adding that he was baffled as to who could have been behind the rumours.

He also pledged loyalty to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and said he would listen to their advice.