

29 AUG 2002

Ling-Ah Lek

AH LEK NOT RE-APPOINTED DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 29 (Bernama) -- MCA deputy president Datuk Lim Ah Lek was not re-appointed as the party's disciplinary committee chairman or as a member in the committee's new line-up announced by party president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik today.

Dr Ling said the Central Committee, the party's highest decision-making body, has instead appointed five veteran members headed by Datuk Kam Woon Wah.

The others are Datuk Dr Wee Khoo Hock, Datuk Wong Seng Chow, Datuk Chan Kit Chee and Datuk Wang Choon Wing.

"We wanted a group of people who are not involved in past party conflicts. We wanted people who are not tainted (by the conflict)," he told reporters after a two-hour CC meeting.

Lim was Disciplinary Board chairman for two terms.

The veterans replaced existing board members whose term expired after the party's elections on July 27. The former board members were Lim, vice-presidents Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn and Datuk Chua Jui Meng, Wanita chief Datuk Dr Ng Yen Yen and Youth chief Datuk Ong Tee Keat.

Asked by reporters why there was a need for a change, Dr Ling said the decision was based on voting by CC members who attended the meeting today with the majority wanting a new composition not related to past events.

"We do it by voting with overwhelming members wanting a new group of disciplinary committee members," he said.

Asked if the new appointments to the disciplinary board had violated the peace plan brokered by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to end the party's 14-month-long leadership tussle between Team A (led by Dr Ling) and Team B (led by Lim), Dr Ling said: "The peace plan was for peace and stability and all these measures taken are under the plan."

Earlier, Lim told reporters the CC's decision to replace the existing board members was against the peace plan.

"He (Dr Ling) is not following the peace plan which required the status-quo to be maintained. Why he did it, you got to ask the president," he said.

At the press conference, Dr Ling said the peace plan should not merely a peace plan but it must be able to bring stability and progress to the party.

"The peace is not just status-quo. If the status-quo is for progress and stability, it is very good but if it hinders and only calling the party to be static, it is not good," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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