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Lim-Term

AH LEK WANTS MCA PRESIDENT'S TERM LIMITED TO 3 TERMS

IPOH, Nov 24 (Bernama) -- MCA deputy president Datuk Lim Ah Lek has called for the party's constitution to be amended to limit the president's term to a maximum of three terms or nine years.

Lim said the suggestion was based on wishes of the grassroot members and the Chinese community.

"As the deputy president, I will do my best to ensure the wishes of the members to change the constitution is fulfilled," he said at a solidarity dinner organised by the Kampar, Batu Gajah and Tambun MCA divisions and attended by about 2,000 people here last night.

Also present were two vice-presidents, Datuk Chua Jui Meng and Datuk Chan Kong Choy and state leaders alligned to the so-called "Team B" of which Lim is the leader.

President Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik has been at the helm of the party since 1986 when he took over from Datuk Tan Koon Swan while Lim was made the deputy in 1990, taking over from Datuk Lee Kim Sai.

Both retained their posts at the party's annual general assembly this year following the implementation of the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad peace plan for the MCA.

Lim said he and other leaders in "Team B" were on a nationwide tour to meet grassroot members and to carry out reforms in the party, the second largest component in the Barisan Nasional.

"The people want to see changes in the MCA. As a party that has dedicated itself to representing the Chinese community, we must fulfil their wishes and live up to the trust the Chinese community has placed in us," he added.

Lim said the members were also unhappy over the phantom members issue affecting the party and wanted the leadership to carry out an exercise to flush out such members.

"The MCA must carry out an exercise like what the Election Commission is doing to get rid of phantom voters. But I am unhappy that certain leaders are not supportive of the move," he added.

Chan, who also spoke at the function, said he foresaw a change in the leadership of the party in the near future but did not elaborate.

"We hope a smooth transition will take place," he said.

-- BERNAMA

AR AR AAM