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MCA-Committee

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETS TOMORROW ON NEW ELECTION SCHEDULE

KUALA LUMPUR, April 22 (Bernama) -- The MCA Central Committee will meet tomorrow to discuss the new date for this weekend's party divisional elections which has been postponed, said party secretary-general Datuk Seri Dr Ting Chew Peh.

He said this weekend's event was postponed to accommodate the discussion on the Peace and Stability Agenda laid out by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"The party constitution has stated that all elections must be held once in every three years and the last one was in 1999 where the divisional elections were held on May 15-16," he told reporters at the Wisma MCA here today.

Earlier, he attended the media conference chaired by MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik to announce the decision to postpone the party divisional elections, scheduled for April 27-28 as well as the divisional nominations, scheduled today from 4 to 8pm.

Dr Ting said the branch elections held at the end of last month were still valid and not affected by today's postponement which only involved election for the 166 divisions.

MCA has 166 divisions with over 3,600 branches nationwide except Sarawak.

Dr Ting also said that the party national level elections to elect the new central committee members as well as for the top party posts would be as scheduled on June 26.

"The last party's national elections was on July 16-17, 1999 and according to our constitution, we have to hold our national elections before that (expiry of three years)," he said.

However, he did not rule out the possibility that the central committee would reschedule the June 26 national party elections if the central committee feel that there is need for some adjustments.

On the postponement, Dr Ting admitted that it has cause some inconvenience but it had to be done for the sake of party unity.

"We feel very sorry but for the sake of party unity this (postponment) is a small scarifice," he said.

"The nominations were done half way before all the divisions got their notice to withdraw the nominations and postpone the (nomination) process," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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