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Koh-MCA

USE PROPER CHANNEL, KOH TELLS MCA DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

BUTTERWORTH, Dec 12 (Bernama) -- Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon today said the MCA disciplinary committee should have used proper channels if it seeks information on the incident where two of the party's assemblymen abstained from voting on a motion tabled by a DAP member at the State Legislative Assembly last month.

Koh, who is also the State Barisan Nasional (BN) Chairman, said the committee should have referred to the BN Secretary-General Tan Sri Mohamed Rahmat if it wished to seek more information over the incident.

"According to procedures, if the committee wants any information, they can refer to the BN Secretary-General and he (Mohamed) can direct the Penang BN to provide the necessary information," Koh said after opening MS Elevators Sdn Bhd's Research and Development Centre here.

He said if the MCA's request was properly channelled, the needed information could be promptly obtained and the State BN was prepared to provide a more detailed information on it.

Koh was asked to comment on the letter sent by MCA disciplinary committee chairman Datuk Kam Woon Wah who wanted to know from him why eight BN assemblymen were missing during the voting and whether the party whip was applied.

He said all information on the issue had been included in his report and that by the State BN whip Datuk Dr Hilmi Yahaya which had been submitted to the BN Chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Koh also said that the committee's move in telling the media first about the letter sent to him was improper.

"This is MCA's internal affair and outsiders need not interfere unless they (MCA disciplinary committee) have applied to the BN headquarters which can inform the State BN on the further action (required)," he said.

Meanwhile Penang BN Secretary Datuk Seri Khalid Ahmad Sulaiman, in a statement here today, said the State BN had sent a letter to Kam informing him to move it through the correct channel.

Khalid said Kam's letter should have been forwarded to the BN Secretary-General.

He said all the required information on the issue had been included in the reports submitted by the State BN Chairman and party whip to the BN headquarters.

"If he (Kam) needs a more detailed information, the Penang BN is ready to immediately submit it to the BN headquarters," said Khalid.

Two of MCA's elected representatives -- Tan Cheng Lian (Jawi) and Lim Boo Chang (Datuk Keramat) had abstained from voting against a DAP motion which urged the Penang government to defer the RM1.02 billion Penang Outer Ring Road (PORR) project, at a State Assembly sitting last Nov 21.

This had sparked an outcry among BN component parties which called for both Tan and Lim to be sacked.

-- BERNAMA

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