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MCA-Commotion
COMMOTION ERUPTS AT SELANGOR MCA YOUTH ASSEMBLY

KUALA LUMPUR, June 2 (Bernama) -- Commotion broke out at the Selangor MCA Youth Assembly when some of the delegates voiced their disagreement to the list of the movement's committee members.

As soon as assembly Speaker Lim Sing Choi finished announcing the names, some of the delegates stood up to protest.

The situation became noisy when the delegates started shouting to voice their opposition to the leaders seated on stage in Dewan San Choon at Wisma MCA, here.

They protested to committee member Wong Koon Mun being named as the new Selangor MCA Youth chief while the incumbent deputy youth head Datuk Liew Yuen Keong was not chosen.

Incumbent State MCA Youth chairman Datuk Ch'ng Toh Eng did not seek re-election for the post as he had exceeded the 40 age limit.

After the commotion persisted for more than 30 minutes, Lim announced that the meeting cannot be continued and had ended.

Ch'ng told reporters later that a report would be submitted to the party leadership to make a decision on the incident.

He wants action to be taken against party members for their unruly behaviour at the assembly.

He said Wong had majority support for the state youth chief's post after four meetings and three rounds of voting were held.

Wong said he deserved the post as he received majority support.

Meanwhile, Liew said the members who protested were from the grassroots and their voice must be heard.

He hoped the nine-member MCA Headquarters Election Steering Committee would provide an opportunity for the candidates to air their views.

In IPOH, the Perak MCA Youth Assembly was interrupted for about 15 minutes when a group of 50 people marched into the hall with banners criticising the wing's new line-up.

The group, claiming to be aligned to Team B, entered the compound of the Tow Boo Keong Hall as the State MCA Youth chief Datuk Ho Cheng Wang started to give his speech

However, there was no untoward incident.

They left the hall at about 10.30am and held a press conference at a hotel in Jalan Gopeng.

They announced that their candidate for the State Youth chief's post was Ipoh Timur Youth Organising Secretary Low Kim Piau.

Claiming that the group was representing 50 per cent of the grassroots members, Low said they were never consulted when the new list was prepared.

He said this was undemocratic as there was no representatives from Team B in the new committee.

"We will bring up the matter with Barisan Nasional chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and BN Youth chief Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein.

"We will also lodge a report with the Registrar of Society and take legal action against the State MCA Youth," he said.

Datuk Tan Chin Meng took over from Ho as state youth chief from today as Ho had exceeded the 40-year-old age limit.

Tan told reporters after the assembly that the group had no right to protest against the list as it was endorsed by the party headquarters and the youth divisions in the state.

Ho said he was merely following instructions from the headquarters

which had agreed to the list.

"The MCA Headquarters said we must maintain the status quo. However, in cases of over age like me, the replacements will be done based on the discussions. All 23 divisions have agreed with the list and they signed for approval," he said.

In PONTIAN, the acceptance of the committee members' list was the issue of contention that lasted for more than three hours at the 36th State MCA Youth Assembly here today.

A heated debate over the issue started as soon as the incumbent State Youth head Hoo Seong Chang finished his speech to about 300 delegates.

About 20 delegates stood up to express their protest to the list announced.

Johor Baharu MCA Youth chief Wee Ka Siong said the protesters were not from the minority group.

"We represent the majority of the divisional leadership from throughout Johor," he said.

He said delegates from Segamat, Gelang Patah, Pagoh, Kluang, Bakri, Muar, Kota Tinggi and Tenggara divisions also disagreed with the new line-up.

Hoo told reporters later that the delegates' protests would be forwarded to the party leadership for further action.

-- BERNAMA

AK MHI TS