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MCA-reactions

PROMOTE CLOSE TIES AMONG RACES AT A YOUNG AGE, SAY MCA LEADERS

KUALA LUMPUR, July 27 (Bernama) -- Several MCA leaders said today that close ties among the races should be promoted at a young age.

They said that in this respect, the parents and educational institutions had an important role to play in uniting the races in the country.

MCA President Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said there was tendency now among many parents to send their children to vernacular instead of national schools.

"Young children seem to go to the school of their (own) language. But if this is the fact of the matter, let's find other ways," he said, commenting on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's speech at the 49th MCA annual general assembly here.

In his speech, Dr Mahathir who is also Barisan Nasional (BN) Chairman expressed concern over growing racial extremism among the younger generation in the country.

According to Dr Mahathir, it is getting worse among the younger generation of today, compared to those in the past.

Dr Ling, who is also Transport Minister, said a solution must be found so that students from various streams could be together such as in sports activities.

Deputy MCA President Datuk Lim Ah Lek meanwhile said it was important that Malaysians of various races interacted when they were still in primary school.

"If we make friends when we are in primary school and secondary school, when we grow up the tendency to be united will be there," he said.

Wanita MCA Chief Datuk Ng Yen Yen said parents should encourage their children to make friends with other races.

-- BERNAMA

YBK MAM ABG