

22 APR 2002

MCA-Welcome

MCA TEAM B WELCOMES POSPONENT OF PARTY DIVISIONAL ELECTIONS

KUALA LUMPUR, April 22 (Bernama) -- The MCA Team B, led by deputy president Datuk Lim Ah Lek welcomed the decision by party president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik to postpone MCA divisional elections scheduled for this weekend.

Lim said he wished to thank Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and the mediator, Tan Sri Lim Kok Wing for the peace and stability plan.

"The most important thing now is for the party to be united and prepare ourselves for the next general election. It is not far away.

"What is important is we are united, we want to help the party and Barisan Nasional (BN) to win with a bigger majority," he said when contacted tonight.

Lim was commenting on the temporary postponement of the MCA divisional election which was scheduled for April 27 dan 28 as well as the nomination process which was scheduled today from 4pm to 8pm.

MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik announced the decision together with party secretary-general Datuk Seri Dr Ting Chew Peh at a media conference at Wisma MCA here today.

He said the decision was made in the interest of the party which required some sacrificies to be made and he appealed to MCA members and supporters to accept the following steps:

- * MCA Constitution on party election will be adhered to,
- * Nominations will be temporarily postponed, and
- * The Prime Minister's Peace and Stability Agenda will be explained.

Dr Ling also said further details would be discussed at the Central Committee meeting tomorrow at Wisma MCA, starting at 11am.

Earlier, Dr Ling, together with MCA vice-presidents Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting and Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn met Dr Mahathir at the Prime Minister's Office at Putrajaya.

The meeting took place at 3.30pm and ended at 4.30pm before the media conference was called by Dr Ling at Wisma MCA at 6pm.

-- BERNAMA

AT DC AO