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Gerakan-Assemblymen

MCA TOLD TO ACT ON ERRANT ASSEMBLYMEN

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 27 (Bernama) -- The MCA leadership should have the courage to discipline its own party members instead of forcing the Barisan Nasional (BN) to "wield the cane", Gerakan Youth chairman Mah Siew Kong said today.

He said that the BN leadership had no choice but to take serious action against the two BN assemblymen from MCA, Lim Boo Chang and Tan Cheng Liang, who abstained from voting on a motion tabled by the opposition at the Penang state assembly recently.

"What use is it to stand under the BN banner if they cannot follow the rules? And if they are let off scot-free, won't others feel that they too can do as they wish?" he said in a statement here.

Mah said that not disciplining them would start a dangerous precedent whereby disloyalty and indiscipline were encouraged.

Commenting on the matter yesterday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said that the two assemblymen had committed a serious breach of party discipline and could face disciplinary action.

The motion, tabled by the DAP, was to defer the construction of the proposed RM1.02 billion Penang Outer Ring Road (PORR).

Gerakan Wanita chairman Datuk Rhina Bhar said that both Tan and Lim were two-term assemblymen who were more than adequately knowledgeable of the BN spirit and code of practice in the state assembly.

"The cardinal issue here is discipline and not the PORR issue or the views and principles of the individual state assemblyman," she said.

Meanwhile, Gerakan vice-president Senator Datuk Dr S. Vijayarajnam said that it was the duty of BN assemblymen to object to motions by the opposition that went against the state government's policy.

-- BERNAMA

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