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Muhyiddin-MCA

BN'S IMAGE MAY BE AFFECTED IF STERN ACTION NOT TAKEN AGAINST MCA DUO

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 12 (Bernama) -- Umno vice-president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the Barisan Nasional's (BN) image may be affected if the MCA does not take stern action in handling the disciplinary issue concerning two Penang State Assemblymen from the party.

He said the MCA, as an important component party in the BN, must act immediately against Datuk Keramat State Assemblyman Lim Boo Chang and Jawi State Assemblyman Tan Cheng Liang.

"We want action to be taken on the matter as soon as possible so that other people would not say that it (the MCA) is looking for other excuses," he said at a media conference after delivering a talk on the future of the Malaysian corporate sector in facing stiff competition in Asia today.

He was asked to comment on the statement by MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik that the BN could not interfere in determining discipline pertaining to the two State Assemblymen concerned.

Dr Mahathir yesterday said the MCA was perceived as not upholding the BN's cooperative spirit if it was not prepared to adhere to the component parties' stand.

Muhyiddin, who is also Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister, said the MCA should respect the views of Dr Mahathir as the BN chairman because the issue was related to matters pertaining to BN principles.

"That's why we don't want the MCA leaders to perceive the matter as an internal problem and it would take time to resolve the issue in its own way.

"But the party as an affiliated member of the BN cannot act differently or follow its own style," Muhyiddin said.

Lim and Tan created controversy when they abstained during the vote on the motion by the DAP on the last day of the Penang State Assembly sitting on Nov 21.

-- BERNAMA

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