

01/01/2002

PM meets MCA leaders

Chow Kum Hor

PUTRAJAYA, Mon. - MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik and his deputy Datuk Lim Ah Lek held separate meetings with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on the Indera Kayangan by-election today.

Both emerged from the meetings with Dr Mahathir saying that MCA would campaign as one team in the run-up to the polls.

Dr Ling, who is also Transport Minister, entered the Prime Minister's Department at about 2.45pm and came out almost an hour later.

He said he had submitted the names of MCA candidates shortlisted to contest in the Indera Kayangan by-election.

"Nobody in the party will be left out. Everyone will campaign as one team," he said when met outside the Prime Minister's Department.

He added that he would direct all top party leaders to be present at Indera Kayangan on Jan 5 but refused to state the reasons.

When pressed further, he said the party could announce the name of its candidate there.

Meanwhile, Lim, together with vice-president Datuk Chua Jui Meng and central committee member Datuk Wong Mook Leong arrived at the PM's office at about 4.50pm.

Youth chief Datuk Ong Tee Keat arrived 20 minutes earlier.

They left in the same car at about 6.30pm.

"We have given our assurance to the Prime Minister that we will work towards a bigger win in Indera Kayangan," Lim said when met outside by reporters later.

He described the meeting as "good and constructive".

Asked if the party would contest as Team A and Team B, he said there were no such factions.

"There is only one team, Team Indera Kayangan."

kumhor@nstp.com.my

(END)