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Ong-MCA

DR LING'S QUIT OFFER NOT BECAUSE HE FAILED TO RESOLVE CHINESE ISSUES

MELAKA, Jan 9 (Bernama) -- MCA President Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik wanted to resign as Transport Minister not because he failed to resolve issues involving the party and the Chinese community, party vice-president Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting said today.

He asked certain groups not to make such speculations on Dr Ling's move to send a letter to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad offering to quit from the Cabinet.

Dr Mahathir had rejected Dr Ling's offer to resign as Transport Minister.

Ong said he wanted to quit from the Cabinet for reasons stated by Dr Ling himself.

Dr Ling was reported to have said on Tuesday that he had completed a large part of his agenda, including setting up Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (Utar), and he did not think he could do much more.

A newspaper report today that Dr Ling wanted to step down from the Cabinet because he failed to resolve issues of the Chinese community was inaccurate and merely speculation, he told reporters after opening the Malaysian Municipalities Corporation Consultative Committee meeting.

Ong, who is also Housing and Local Government Minister, said Dr Mahathir had turned down Dr Ling's intention to resign as a minister in the interests of the BN and the country's political stability.

"I take this opportunity to thank Dr Mahathir for his deep concern on the internal developments in BN component parties as the BN chairman.

"Dr Ling's offer to resign should not be questioned by anyone," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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