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MCA-Reaction

LIM AND TAN PLEDGE TO SERVE THE PEOPLE WISELY

PENANG, July 10 (Bernama) -- The two suspended MCA members of the Penang State Legislative Assembly who were reinstated today thanked the party leaders and pledged to serve the people wisely.

The State Assemblyman for Datuk Keramat, Lim Boo Chang, and the Jawi Assemblywoman, Tan Cheng Liang, said their seven months' suspension had taught them to be more careful in the future.

Lim said: "Today is the happiest day for me and my voters. The hardship I have been through for the last seven months not only affected me but also caused my constituency to suffer."

Lim and Tan were suspended on Dec 16, 2002, over the Penang Outer Ring Road (PORR) issue.

Both of them had abstained from voting against a DAP motion tabled by DAP Assemblyman Law Heng Kiang (Batu Lanchang) in the State Assembly on Nov 21, last year, to defer the RM1.02 billion project.

The decision to lift the suspension was made unanimously by the MCA presidential council at its meeting in Kuala Lumpur today.

According to the presidential council, the lifting of the suspension would enable both of them to effectively serve their constituencies.

Lim said that for the last seven months, he had been unable to serve his constituents effectively as he was denied the constituency's development allocation by the State Government.

He also could not attend official functions and meetings, including state development meetings.

"Now, I am looking forward to serving the people, government and the party effectively. I thank all my supporters," he added.

Meanwhile, Tan said she was relieved by the decision and expressed her gratitude to the Barisan Nasional (BN) leaders, especially Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, MCA President Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting and former President Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik for giving her the chance to serve the people.

"I have learned a lot of things during the suspension. It has made me wiser and to be more careful in making decisions," she said.

She added that she had had a difficult time during the suspension as she could not attend official meetings to obtain first hand information that could benefit her constituency.

"Now, I am in high spirits again. My love for the MCA and BN has not faded. I will continue to serve the people and the nation," she added.

-- BERNAMA

SA SRI