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Ling-Assemblymen

MCA WILLING TO LISTEN TO BN ADVICE ON STATE ASSEMBLYMEN'S CASE

KAMPAR, Jan 2 (Bernama) -- The MCA is willing to listen to any advice from the Barisan Nasional (BN) component parties regarding the case of its two suspended Penang state assembly members.

MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik, said today that the party felt that the issue had been settled in accordance with its constitution and action had been taken against the duo "but if our friends in the BN want to give advice, we are prepared to listen".

He declined to elaborate on the fate of the two, Datuk Keramat state assemblyman Lim Boo Chang and Jawi state assemblywoman Tan Cheng Liang, which will be discussed by the BN supreme council on Tuesday.

A news report today quoted BN secretary-general Tan Sri Mohamed Rahmat as saying that the BN meeting would decide whether Lim and Tan should be declared as independent state assembly members or should remain in the coalition.

The two were suspended suspended by the MCA presidential council last month for abstaining from voting against an opposition motion to defer the controversial Penang Outer Ring Road (Porr) project in the assembly last November.

Their action had angered the other BN components, especially Gerakan and Umno, which wanted them expelled.

Dr Ling also said that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would perform the ground-breaking ceremony for Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman's (Utar) main campus here on Sunday which would be attended by 20,000 people.

He said the cost of building the campus and its concept would be announced at the ceremony. He expected the campus to accommodate 10,000 to 15,000 students when completed.

He said Utar was open to all races and he hoped that the government would give scholarships to bumiputera students to study there to balance the racial composition.

-- BERNAMA

AR JK