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Chan: Respect Ling's move to resign from Cabinet

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - The decision made by Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik to resign must be respected, said MCA vice-president Datuk Chan Kong Choy.

"This is his second attempt (to resign) and we must respect this. But since the Prime Minister has yet to decide, then it is business as usual, for now at least," he said.

Chan, who is also Deputy Finance Minister, said this after launching the Inland Revenue Board's briefing on how to fill in the new Form B under the Self-Assessment System for individuals, here today.

Chan said it was Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's prerogative to accept or not to accept Dr Ling's resignation.

He said as things are "very clear now," there was no need for anyone to speculate on what would happen next.

Dr Ling first tendered his resignation in May 2000, purportedly to make way for Chan to fill his (Dr Ling's) ministerial post.

However, Dr Ling retracted his decision following strong opposition from party leaders and the grassroots two weeks later.