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MCA must put its house in order

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THE continuous and incessant bickering among the factions in MCA is cause for serious concern. Where once there was still hope that party interests would prevail and the factions would unite in the name of a common cause, that hope is clearly diminishing, especially in light of recent developments.

Accusations continue to be hurled from one side to another. No resolution seems to be forthcoming.

In light of the fact that the general election must take place within 18 months at most, perhaps the time has come for the BN to do something to remedy the situation.

It does not help the cause of the coalition when one of its main parties is seen to be so factionalised and riddled with scandals.

It may affect not just the credibility of the component party as one which represents one of the country's main races, worse, the disunity of that component party may affect the credibility of the entire BN.

The matter has been going on for far too long. There was a glimmer of hope when Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is BN chairman, came up with the peace plan to resolve the matter. Alas, peace was fleeting as the factions continued to harbour deep resentment for each other.

Perhaps it's time for the BN to say enough is enough and insist that the MCA put its house in order. Much is at stake for the coalition.

It's bad enough for BN to have to contend with the relentless tactics of a cunning opposition without also having to put up with the threat of reduced support and dwindling appeal of a significant segment of society simply because one of its component parties refuses to shape up.

If the MCA is adamant that it will solve its own internal matters, than it must be seen to be doing just that.

Sanity must prevail and the situation must be seen from the right perspective.

It is more important for MCA to concentrate on winning the war, which in this case is the general election, as opposed to the factions being focused on winning their internal battles. Indeed, winning the battle is pointless if you lose the war. To use an apparently popular fish analogy, it does not matter now whether the fish is rotting from the head or from the tail.

The point is, the rot has set in, and is progressing rapidly. Something must be done to stop the rot from further spreading, lest the whole fish