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Ng lauds proposal to limit tenure of MCA presidency

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - MCA president Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting's decision to push for constitutional amendments to limit the tenure of party presidency to nine years is a wise move, said Deputy Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Dr Ng Yen Yen today.

"I agree with the decision," she said after the Ambang Merdeka 2003 Celebrations briefing at the National Art Gallery.

Dr Ng, who is also Wanita MCA chief, said limiting the tenure would enable other potential leaders to lead the party.

"I may consider implementing the new system in Wanita MCA as well.

"We have a large number of Wanita MCA members. The new system will give potential leaders a chance to lead the division."

On Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Paduka Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir's remarks that 90 per cent of urban Chinese did not raise the national flag during the Merdeka celebrations and showed lukewarm response to certain national events, she said Kadir had no intention of hurting the feelings of the Chinese community.

"He (Kadir) has been working hard to promote multi-cultural Malaysia as a tourist destination.

"He hopes to see more national flags raised during the Merdeka celebrations as a sign of patriotism."

Earlier, Dr Ng briefed representatives of the private sector on the Ambang Merdeka 2003 Celebrations.

She said the private sector could help make it the grandest celebration to honour Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is retiring later this year.

The celebration will be from Aug 17 to Sept 16.