

11/01/2003

`Pas shows no respect for Chinese'

KOTA BARU, Fri. - The Kelantan Government's lack of sensitivity to the needs of the Chinese when coming up with new policies and laws have resulted in discontent in the community.

MCA vice-president Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn, who is also the State party chief, said the party felt the Pas Government was unfair.

"Feedback has shown that the community in the State is dissatisfied over a lot of things.

"For example, the State authorities spell out certain conditions if they want to have festive gatherings or wedding receptions. Entertainment is not allowed when in fact it is our tradition."

He said the party felt that this was not in line with the spirit of a plural society where the various communities should respect the culture and traditions of each other.

Fong, who is Human Resources Minister, said the community was also dissatisfied with the State Government's inability to create jobs.

"After completing their studies, they cannot come back to the State because of the scarcity of jobs.

"There is no progress in Kelantan whereas in other States there are many new projects."

He said the party would strive to make sure that the State Government was replaced.

"To achieve this, all divisions in the State will organise many programmes this year to canvass support from the community for the Barisan Nasional," he said.

Fong said MCA's internal problems would not affect the unity of party members in the State.

On the State MCA's stand on party president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik's intention to step down as Transport Minister, Fong said it was the prerogative of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.