

Koh willing to 'sacrifice' self in next GE
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By Nigel Aw

Gerakan President Koh Tsu Koon today declared he was ready to sacrifice himself for the party as he prepares his strategy going into the next general election.

"I'm not going to tell you today what I'm going to do because I still need to do some checking and coordinating.

"But I can assure you I am prepared to sacrifice myself for the party," he declared when wrapping up the 40th Gerakan National Delegates Conference at the party headquarters in Kuala Lumpur this afternoon.

koh tsu koonThe promise appeared to be a move to address dissenting voices anxious over his perceived indecision on election matters and questions over Koh's candidacy.

Koh (left) who is also Minister in the Prime Minister's Department did not confirm or deny the possibility of him contesting in the next general election.

He said the decision, including on the candidacy of fellow party members, required time.

"Sometimes some people want fast, sometimes some people want slow... but I want to get everybody on board before I make a final decision."

Koh added he has to make proper arrangements before he "sacrificed" himself as it was collective leadership.

"So this is all I can tell you today, wait for more announcements to be made in future."

'Many options'

Speaking at a press conference shortly after the NDC concluded, Koh declined to elaborate but merely said: "There are several options of what I meant as sacrifice. I will be doing my own assessment and I will engage the top leadership".

Asked if Koh missed an opportunity to rally party delegates for the general election today by holding back his announcements, the party president said the task did not rest solely on his shoulders.

"If you want to work, you work, you don't wait for a shot in the arm from the prime minister or the NDC. Even though that will help as this is what the leadership charisma entails, we still have to work."

He added that he was a "responsible leader" that needed to make decisions based on "reason and sentiments".

Earlier during the conference, Koh explained the delay in election decisions and repeatedly asked if delegates would support the decision of the leadership, to which they replied: "Yes" in ascending enthusiasm.

The closing speech provided slightly more insight compared to Koh's earlier address in the morning and was tailored for the party to close ranks following internal criticism against him a day before.

However, Koh remained tight lipped over details and refused to answer any questions related to his

"future announcements".

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