

Tee to accept MCA sanction, won't quit Johor exco post

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By Kow Gah Chiew

Ex-MCA national organising secretary Tee Siew Kiong will accept the outcome of a hearing by the central disciplinary panel, which met today to consider sanctioning him for 'disobedience'.

However, he insisted he will not resign as Johor executive councillor.

His acceptance of the post went against the party's stance to shun all appointments to government posts, following its dismal outing in the 13th general election.

Michael Chen (left), who chairs the disciplinary committee, said the five members have arrived at a unanimous decision.

However, he withheld the information on the ground that Article 125 of the party constitution prohibits disclosure.

Chen said the panel had to find a solution that would respect the Johor sultan's prerogative and the party's decision, as well as show the public that the MCA is serious about its stance on refusing appointed posts.

He said the board had listened to Tee's explanation and seriously considered whether he has contravened the party decision.

However, it "was a little bit hard to make the decision" given the fact that there is no precedent as a reference point.

The other members of the panel are deputy chairperson Lim Si Cheng and members Ooi Ah Lan, Ho Lim Teck and Benson Foo.

'What would you have done?'

Met at party headquarters in Kuala Lumpur after the hearing, Tee said he will accept the decision, even if this amounts to a sacking.

He said he would understand the decision, given his love for the party.

Saying he does not regret accepting the exco post, he expressed disappointment that a small group in the party has resorted to undermine unity by

"blackening" his name. He alleged that the group has a private agenda ahead of the party election.

"I hope those who blame me will understand my situation. What if these things had happened to you, what would you have done?"

Tee was referring to the 'difficult' situation in which he had placed, after the Johor ruler had assented to the list of names submitted.

"I am also a devout Buddhist. I don't make things difficult for others," he added.

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