

## **MCA moots learning from China's Communist Party**

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**By Tharshinaa Chandran**

MCA has said that it will propose incorporating the strengths of China's Chinese Communist Party (CCP) in a bid to revive the party after its abysmal performance in the 13th general election.

MCA deputy president Liow Tiong Lai noted the strengths in CCP's party structure, member enrolment system and management of Internet information after concluding a six-day visit to China.

"The trip to China was to learn the strengths of the CCP's structural framework and integrate them into MCA's transformation blueprint," Liow told a press conference at the MCA headquarters this morning.

NONEHowever, Liow (left), who heads the MCA Transformation Task Force, stressed that the party was not looking at Communism.

"The trip did not touch anything on (communist) ideology," he said.

Liow pointed out that the CCP is an "open and liberal party" in reaching out to the community and its structural strength has enabled it to exist and function for over 90 years.

Learning from PAP next

Zooming in on the CCP's member enrolment, Liow said MCA is also looking at incorporating this into their system.

"We really need to reduce the number of our members and re-register them.

"If incorporated into MCA, the CCP's system would ensure our members have a better understanding of the party's struggle, as well as enhance their commitment and responsibilities to the party," he said.

Liow also noted the CCP's strength in handling online information after visiting China's State Internet Information Management Office.

He said aside from being able to swiftly respond to online information, it was also able to keep Internet users accountable and the prosecution for Internet offenses

was swift.

"I believe the government can also make a reference to this system, not just MCA," he said.

However, MCA Youth chief Wee Ka Siong pointed out that this by no means meant that the party wanted to curb freedom of expression.

Liow said MCA's next study tour will involve a dialogue with Singapore's People's Action Party (PAP).

Ironically, the PAP is the earlier incarnation of the DAP, MCA's arch rivals, which was founded after Singapore was booted from Malaysia.

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