

DAP CEC meeting sparks Ronnie Liu buzz
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KUALA LUMPUR: The DAP Central Executive Committee (CEC) meeting Thursday is set to be a stormy affair. The grapevine has it that some CEC members are said to be adamant about pushing for stronger action against Selangor exco Ronnie Liu over the controversial support letter issue.

Party sources said Liu's issue was not settled in the last CEC meeting held two weeks ago, and that there was growing uneasiness among some party members who wanted the matter dealt with again.

"I think, that is why the CEC is meeting again. It is very unusual to sit again, just in two weeks. I am surprised they did not term it an emergency meeting. I think they want some action to be taken," a party source told Bernama here Wednesday.

The party became embroiled in an image-tarnishing controversy when a Klang municipal councillor and Liu's ex-aide Tee Boon Hock were sacked over the misuse of DAP letterheads belonging to the chairman of the local government, research and development committee.

The party's disciplinary committee also severely reprimanded Liu for not managing his office in accordance with public expectations. A CEC meeting is normally held once a month.

However, some CEC members have played down the significance of Thursday's meeting, as they said it was just a normal meeting born out of necessity, particularly related to the political situation in the country.

"It's just a normal meeting, nothing special. Don't speculate, you might get it wrong," said DAP treasurer Fung Kui Lung when contacted.

The party's publicity chief, Tony Pua, said the notice for Thursday's meeting was sent out last week. He believed it might be related to the current political situation.

"I am not aware of any particular issue but normally, at such meetings, the members are free to raise any issue," he said.

DAP vice-chairman and disciplinary committee chairman Tan Kok Wai confirmed the meeting and said that Tee's case was likely to be discussed.

"It is only natural that we get to meet again as the 14-day grace period for Tee's appeal over the sacking will be over by then," he said.

However, some of the CEC members also said they were expecting to face severe criticism from their own comrades during the meeting for discussing the Liu issue openly in the media, and what transpired during the last CEC meeting.

"I think we are going to face criticism in the meeting. However, we are prepared and open to their criticism and views," said CEC member Jeff Ooi.

The Jelutong member of parliament, together with party adviser Chen Man Hin and Selangor Speaker Teng Chang Khim had spoken about the issue in the media, causing uneasiness among some leaders.

DAP chairman Karpal Singh has ordered a gag order on all party members over the issue, saying it was an internal matter that needed to be resolved within the party. — Bernama

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