

No Way To Create 'Small China' In Malaysia
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KOTA KINABALU -- There is no way to create a 'small China' in Malaysia as it is not good for the country, said MCA president Dr Chua Soi Lek.

He said MCA accepted the fact that Malaysia was a multiracial country and that what it wanted to see was moderation, not just tolerance but also acceptance of the fact that this was a multiracial country.

In this respect, Soi Lek lamented the DAP's strategy in adopting a Chinese fighting against Chinese clash towards MCA in winning the hearts and minds of the people.

"Because DAP is not a ruling party (in the country), they can raise their expectations of the Chinese community... they raise this in the sense that if they come into power they will build more schools or they will take care of the Chinese.

"This is misleading because DAP, by itself, will never form the government. The reason is simple, they only concentrate on Chinese seats but the number of the Chinese majority seats in Parliament is at the most 45, out of 222 seats (at stake).

"So, DAP has to combine with other parties dependent on the support of other races. In this case, they chose PAS and Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR), so whatever DAP's promises to the community if they come into power will be diluted because the other component parties would have to look after the interest of other races," he told a press conference in conjunction with the Sabah MCA Convention at the Sabah Trade Centre, near here yesterday.

Soi Lek said Barisan Nasional (BN) was not perfect but Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak was trying his best to transform the country's economy and that Sabahans should support this initiative.

In this respect, he urged all 25 MCA divisions in Sabah to get ready to help the BN component parties to win the coming general election in the spirit of BN.

"In Sabah, the number of MCA members is increasing slowly but steadily and today we have about 60,000 members with one state seat.

"We will not talk openly about the seat allocation, we will leave it to the wisdom of the Prime Minister and Sabah Chief Minister, because at the end of the day, we must win this general election, so allocation of seat will be based on party and candidates which are winnable," he said.

Soi Lek also called on state MCA leaders to put aside personal differences and work as a team to ensure BN's victory in the general election.

(Bernama)