

Keng Yaik can still be in cabinet, says Koh

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KUALA LUMPUR: Gerakan immediate past-president Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik is still able to present the party's policies well in the cabinet although he is no longer in the central committee (CC), Gerakan president Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon said yesterday.

At a press conference after chairing the party's third CC meeting since he took over the helm in April, Koh said the CC is still working very closely with Lim, who had been made the party adviser.

"It would not be any problem for Keng Yaik to present our views in the cabinet since he had been party president for 26 years and he understands the party and our movement very well," Koh said.

He said it was unnecessary for him to be in the cabinet.

Speculation has been rife that Koh, who is the Penang chief minister, may move to be a federal minister after the next general election.

Pressed further, Koh said the question was a trick to get him to answer whether he would be contesting at the state or federal level.

"The decision will be made when the general election is approaching ... please be patient," he said.

He remained tight-lipped over the party's preparation and strategy for the next general election.

On whether the party had discussed the question of allocation of seats, Koh said it was too early to talk about it.

He, however, said that two new party bureaus, on environment and small and medium enterprises, had been set up.