

## **Local glass industry says under threat, turns to MCA for help**

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**By Lisa J. Ariffin**

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 23 — Local glass manufacturers today highlighted their fears over a potential threat to the local glass manufacturing and processing industry to MCA president Datuk Sri Dr Chua Soi Lek.

According to Malaysian Sheet Glass Sdn Bhd group country manager N. Krishna Kumar, a foreign facade consultant Meinhardt Facade Technology (S) Pte Ltd had in June recommended Putrajaya Holdings to buy glass from Europe as local products purportedly suffer from spontaneous shattering.

"Putrajaya Holdings has always used local glass; however, following consultation from a foreign company from Australia, they have decided to stop using local glass and this will have great impact on the local industry," Dr Chua told reporters today following the meeting with the manufacturers.

"If Putrajaya cannot use local glass, this will affect the industry and more than 20,000 employees," he added.

The MCA president said, however, that he would only highlight their plight during the next economic council meeting on Monday.

"Right now, there is no hurry as there is no economic council meeting. The economic council meeting is chaired every Monday by the PM of which I am a member.

"You can hand in your memo, keep it short and sweet, and I will see what I can do," Dr Chua told the manufacturers.

Kumar said that in the last 20 years, the turnover for both upstream and downstream glass manufacturers combined stands at RM200 million.

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