

Dr Chua says MCA more multi-racial now
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By Lisa J. Ariffin

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 26 — Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek claimed today that MCA has diversified from its ethnic-based image and no longer addresses issues solely from the standpoint of the Chinese community.

The MCA president said the party's programmes are structured to benefit all Malaysians, regardless of their race and religion.

"Dear comrades, our role is not only all Chinese in nature.

"It (MCA programmes) is about reaching out to fellow Malaysians — whatever their political affiliations, whatever their ethnicity, whatever their religion, whatever their creed — on a matter that transcends all these differences," Dr Chua said today in his address to over 3,000 party delegates during MCA's 63rd anniversary celebration here.

He added that party initiatives such as UTAR, KTAR and the 1MCA Medical Foundation do not discriminate against race.

"MCA had diversified from its ethnic based image and no longer look or address issues solely at the standpoint of either as a Chinese, Malay or Indian perspective," he said.

"We are for a social contract that is inclusive to better serve the people in all fairness and in realising the wishes of the rakyat. This is also in line with the 1Malaysia agenda of the People First," he added.

Dr Chua (picture) pointed out that people "from the other side of the political divide" have also benefited from MCA's efforts, but ironically, "though not obliged to say thank you, had been whacking MCA for purportedly not doing anything for education or the Chinese community".

"There are political parties, which on the surface only, portray themselves as multi-racial but actually focus its attention solely on mono-ethnic issues," he said.

"And when it comes to defending the very rights of the very mono-ethnic rights of the community, they veered off," he adding, hitting out at DAP in particular.

He noted that at his recent debate with DAP secretary-general, Lim Guan Eng, the latter had evaded the hudud law issue as well as socio-economic programmes that Pakatan Rakyat would put in place.

"If he could not even answer these two questions, how on earth could DAP for that matter be entrusted to defend the rights of the Chinese or for that matter the Chinese to put their trust on them?" he asked.

"We are not in the business of trumpeting our achievements unlike certain political parties

who do not do much but are only good at glorifying and magnifying what they do," Dr Chua said.

"This is because MCA do not only talk, but we walk the talk and work and deliver."

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