

**MCA against Perkasa, but accepts 'repentant' Zul Noordin, says Soi Lek**  
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**By Zurairi AR**

KUALA LUMPUR, May 2 – Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek said today that MCA has accepted Perkasa vice-president Datuk Zulkifli Noordin as a Barisan Nasional (BN) candidate, despite vehemently renouncing the Malay supremacy group.

The remark by the MCA president follows black-and-white advertisements put out by DAP in Chinese dailies Sin Chew Daily and China Press, which say that a vote for MCA is a vote for Umno and Perkasa.

“MCA is against Perkasa ... In the case of Shah Alam, he practised extremist politics while he was in PAS. After he entered BN, he is penitent and has repented,” Dr Chua told reporters here, referring to Zulkifli who is contesting the Malay-majority Shah Alam seat as a BN direct candidate.

“When someone apologises openly we have to accept him sincerely. All religions do that.”

Dr Chua (picture) also slammed DAP for confusing voters by saying that one vote for MCA equals one vote for Perkasa, since the two organisations have no official link.

Meanwhile, saying one vote for DAP equals one vote for PAS is accurate since the two parties have allied themselves in Pakatan Rakyat (PR), Dr Chua said.

The BN decision to field Zulkifli, the Kulim Bandar Baharu incumbent who was once a lawyer for de facto PR leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, has been laced with controversy from the start.

Zulkifli was in PAS before 2008, and became a BN-friendly independent MP and critical of the opposition when he was dismissed from PKR on March 6, 2010 over a police report he lodged against PAS' Khalid Abdul Samad, who is the incumbent MP of Shah Alam.

He was recently catapulted to notoriety over an old video of him speaking at a religious seminar in which he had questioned the purity of the Ganges River, also known as Ganga in India, which is considered sacred by Hindus.

A video of Zulkifli uttering the word “Keling”, which Malaysians of Indian descent consider derogatory, went viral recently, just days after another video was released in which he questioned an Indian trader on why Hindu gods did not prevent the man's shop from being flooded, drawing the wrath of Hindus.

His appointment has provided much fodder for leaders from PR in its nationwide electoral campaign for the May 5 polls, with the federal three-party opposition pact encouraging Indian voters not to support BN.

Zulkifli has been making the rounds to meet Indian representatives since being nominated, including apologising to Indians. He also attempted to shift the blame put on him, telling Selangor's Indians they should be more upset with the PR state government for demolishing their temples and shrines than whatever he had ever done.

Another of Zulkifli's comrade, Perkasa chief Datuk Ibrahim Ali is contesting Pasir Mas as an independent against PAS' Nik Abduh Nik Abdul Aziz.

He has since joined forces with BN after the coalition's Che Johan Che Pa failed to turn in his nomination forms on Nomination Day to give way for a straight fight between Ibrahim and Nik Abduh.

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