

Penang MCA says all state leaders responsible for polls loss
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By Opalyn Mok

GEORGE TOWN, May 14 — All Penang MCA leaders should take collective responsibility for the dismal loss suffered by the party in the May 5 polls instead of blaming a single individual, said Tanjung division chief Datuk Dr Loh Hock Hun.

Loh and six other MCA division chiefs in Penang called a press conference today to state that the party's loss was not due to any individual leader.

While not coming out to express their support for party president Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek, Loh said it was not fair to blame Dr Chua alone for the party's poor showing in the recent elections.

"We will take full responsibility for the loss but we should not pinpoint anybody," said Loh, the state MCA deputy chairman.

Last week, representatives from several MCA divisions, three of whom are division chiefs, had called a press conference to demand that Dr Chua take full responsibility by resigning.

Today, Loh said if anybody wanted to blame someone for the party's loss, they could blame him.

"They can blame me, no problem. I apologise if I did not do enough but I did the best I could and I am not God, so I am sorry," he said.

He also said all seven divisions present today agreed with the party's stand that it will not take up any government post as it did not do better than Election 2008.

The seven divisions are Tanjung, Bukit Gelugor, Bayan Baru, Balik Pulau, Kepala Batas, Bukit Bendera and Batu Kawan.

Loh said the party's refusal to take up government posts did not mean the party was refusing to represent the Chinese as it will continue to serve the Chinese community no matter what.

As for the calls for Dr Chua to resign, Loh said Penang MCA hoped members would let the party elections decide on its new line-up of leaders.

"He has already said he will not re-contest for the president post so we should all let the party elections take its course next month for the members to decide on the new party leadership," he said.

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