

Dr Chua says he is no dictator, not interested in re-election
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BY EILEEN NG

"I'm not a dictator."

This was the declaration from Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek (pic) after being labelled as such by his number two over the weekend.

The MCA president shrugged off the label heaped on him by Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai, saying that he is taking it all "in my stride" and that the latter has the freedom to say what he wants.

"I understand his mood. He may be angry because decisions made were not in his favour," Dr Chua said after chairing the presidential council meeting at the party headquarters in Kuala Lumpur this evening.

In stressing that he is no dictator, Dr Chua said at all party functions and activities, he always makes room for Liow to give his speeches.

Dr Chua emphasised that it is during times of crisis that the quality of a leader will shine through.

"Some are damn good, when there is a crisis, they are still smiling, cracking jokes.

"Some just cannot, some will wait for one strike to show they are fierce when they have never been fierce in their lives," he said.

Asked whether Liow has the qualities of a good leader, Dr Chua said he is leaving it for members to evaluate.

Besides calling Dr Chua a "dictator", the usually mild-mannered Liow had also called his boss a "bully" and "spin doctor" after the former hit back at his deputy for pressuring him to step down on three occasions.

Dr Chua reiterated that he had always maintained that he will not seek re-election.

"I have never said I will seek reelection. People are suspicious of whatever I do. I meet members nationwide to boost their morale but people interpret it as I am seeking support for re-election. That is not true," said Dr Chua. - September 10, 2013.

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