

Team B leaders say EGM will proceed

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'We are not aware of directive from PM'

By Chow Kum Hor
kumhor@nstp.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. MCA Team B leaders said today the June 21 extraordinary general meeting will proceed as planned and that they were not aware of a directive, purportedly from Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, directing the EGM to be called off.

"I have not heard anything to the effect that Dr Mahathir wants the EGM to be cancelled," said Selangor Executive Council member Datuk Tang See Hang.

Tang is one of the three leaders representing the 810 delegates who had requested for the EGM.

Subsequently, 49 delegates withdrew their request, resulting in disputes on whether the June 21 EGM was valid.

Asked whether the EGM would go on in the event Dr Mahathir advised against it, Tang said if Team B leaders decide the meeting was not necessary, then it would be called off.

Tang was responding to reports in several Chinese dailies today, quoting unnamed sources that Dr Mahathir had directed the EGM to be cancelled and that the party elections should proceed as scheduled.

The dailies reported that Dr Mahathir, who is also Barisan Nasional chairman, said this during his meeting with MCA

president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik yesterday.

Tang said he had also received complaints from some delegates who allegedly received threatening phone calls asking them to stay away from the EGM.

Tang, who is also Rawang Assemblyman, did not specify how many delegates had received the phone calls but expressed confidence many would show up for the EGM and support the resolutions.

Meanwhile, another Team B leader Datuk Fu Ah Kiow said several of the faction's leaders had gone on nationwide roadshows from today to explain to delegates the rationale of having the EGM.