

Settle MCA Youth wing problems first, says Tee Keat

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MUAR, Sun. — The MCA peace plan initiated by Barisan Nasional chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will not achieve its objectives if there is no amicable solution to the rift within MCA Youth.

MCA Youth chief Datuk Ong Tee Keat said he was prepared to meet Dr Mahathir again to discuss the problems faced by the movement.

He said the dispute between the so-called Team A and B in MCA could not be completely solved if the problems faced by the party's Youth wing were not settled.

"I am prepared to meet Dr Mahathir at his convenience to make the peace plan more complete and strong.

"The problems faced by MCA Youth needs to be resolved before the coming general election," he told reporters after opening the first National Youth Petanque competition here today.

Ong, who is also the Deputy Youth and Sports Minister, said given the opportunity, he would convey to Dr Mahathir the aspiration of the MCA Youth leaders to have the movement restored to its original form.

He said he was not involved in the workings of the peace plan because the agreement excluded the specific Youth elements in its final settlement.

Ong said he had met Dr Mahathir on Dec 13 last year in Alor Star to clarify issues surrounding the disputes within the movement.

"I regret that many quarters distorted the meeting with baseless and irresponsible statements which are dangerous in our multi-racial country," he said.