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MB urged to get grassroots' views on list of councillors

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - Several MCA members today appealed to Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Khir Toyo to listen to the views of the grass roots before making a decision on the list of MCA local councillors for Selangor.

They said discussing the matter with party president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik alone was insufficient as he (Dr Khir) would not be able to get the "overall picture".

"We appeal to Dr Khir to get views from as many grass roots members as possible before making any decision on the names," a senior Selangor MCA member said.

He said the dropping of some names contravened the Prime Minister's peace plan and there was fear among members that this could lead to a resurgence of factionalism in the party.

"We have learnt that several councillors' names have been dropped for no reason.

"This should not be allowed as Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had asked us to maintain status quo at all levels," he said.

Yesterday, Dr Khir said he needed more time to review the MCA's list of local councillors before announcing the names.

"I want to be sure of their capabilities before appointing them. There are councillors who have not been performing and it would be unfair to reappoint them," he had said.

MCA is allocated between four and eight posts in each council.

Another MCA member urged Dr Khir to discuss the list with Dr Mahathir.