

22 APR 2002

Mahathir-MCA

MAHATHIR TO MEET MCA LEADERS TO RESOLVE PARTY CONFLICT

SEPANG, April 22 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that he will have to talk with the relevant people in the MCA on the ongoing problems in the party before making any statement on the matter.

The Prime Minister was bombarded with questions surrounding the MCA issue at a media conference soon after his arrival at the KL International Airport (KLIA) here after a week-long trip to Morocco, Libya and Bahrain.

When asked about today's proposed nominations for the contentious elections at the party's divisional level, Dr Mahathir said: "I will tell you when I have discussed it with the relevant people."

He said that all crises were resolved in the end.

Met by reporters at the airport, MCA President Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said that he did not speak to Dr Mahathir about party issues at the airport.

Asked whether he would be meeting the Prime Minister today, Dr Ling, who is also Transport Minister, said that members of the media would be informed about it once an appointment was obtained.

Queried on the nomination process, he said: "According to what I am told, everything is constitutional. Everything is in order and it should go on."

It is understood that the rescheduling of the divisional elections was one of the three main items in a memorandum on the Prime Minister's agenda for peace and stability to bring an end to the MCA squabble.

The other two are that the status quo be retained at all party levels and the cancellation of an EGM call for by Team B led by deputy president Datuk Seri Lim ah Lek.

Dr Ling was reported to have said yesterday that some of the proposals already signed by Team B were not constitutional.

-- BERNAMA

MAM AHH RM