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Smear campaign to defame me, says MCA Youth chief

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - MCA Youth head Datuk Ong Tee Keat today claimed a smear campaign against him was being organised through the distribution of poison pen letters to grassroots leaders.

The letters purportedly criticised Ong and vice-president Datuk Chua Jui Meng for their involvement in organising a meeting between the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia and the Prime Minister on Sept 2. "It is malicious and morally wrong. I know who is behind this but I am not perturbed," he said.

The meeting was held for ACCIM leaders to present their views on the use of English to teach Science and Mathematics in primary schools to Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Chua and Ong were the only two MCA leaders present - both aligned with Team B.

Ong added that the same people behind the distribution of the letters were "quiet as a mouse in church" during the fora to discuss the issue.

He said he would continue trying to bridge the gap between Chinese-based non-governmental organisations and the Government.

To improve the standard of English among non-native speakers, Ong said MCA Youth and the Malaysian Chinese Youth Caucus would undertake a "Proper English, My English" project.

"It is a fun-filled event targeted at students. We even have a theme song."

Under the project, facilitators will spend three hours with students. The first programme will be held in Dewan San Choon, Wisma MCA on Sept 20 and, subsequently, extended nationwide. Invitation letters to schools have already been sent out.