

Chua: Najib's approval rate has no bearing on GE13

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By Kow Gah Chie

Fluctuating approval rating of Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak was normal and has no bearing on the general election, said MCA president Dr Chua Soi Lek.

Chua said that many surveys have been conducted over the past year and when the general election is finally held, voter sentiments might be different then.

"We don't know when is the election. They did survey after survey last year. There was no election," he said when met at a function in Petaling Jaya.

According to independent pollster Merdeka Centre, Najib's approval rating stood at 61 percent in January, down two points from the month before.

His approval rating was down 10 points since a high of 71 percent in December 2011.

'We won't field Tee Keat'

Meanwhile, Chua stressed that his predecessor Ong Tee Keat will not be nominated as MCA's candidate for the Pandan parliamentary seat.

He added that BN chairperson Najib Abdul Razak, who has the final say on BN's candidates list, did not tell him that Ong will be nominated as a BN candidate as a BN "direct member", instead of a coalition party member.

"I have not heard anything from the prime minister, as far as I am concerned, he (Ong) is not in MCA's list," he said.

According to The Malaysian Insider, BN intends to field Ong in Pandan as a "direct member", to circumvent MCA's opposition to his candidacy.

Asked if whether if he supported fielding candidates who are "direct members", Chua skirted the question and said such matters would be discussed internally.

Chua and Ong are political rivals within MCA. Since losing the MCA presidency, Ong has worked outside the party framework to the extent of dropping the BN and MCA logo from his webpage.

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