

**Abdullah to meet Ong on 'losers'**  
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**Fauwaz Abdul Aziz**

Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi will meet with new MCA president Ong Tee Keat to discuss the position of those cabinet ministers who lost in the recent party elections before making any decisions as to their posts.

"I wish to see first the new MCA president to hear his views on the position of the cabinet members from MCA, including the deputy ministers. After that, I will determine what should be done," he told a press conference after holding meetings at Parliament building today.

Declining to comment further on the results, Abdullah also congratulated the winners as well as the party generally for holding an incident-free annual general meeting last weekend.

Among those who lost at the MCA polls were Housing and Local Government Minister Ong Ka Chuan, who lost to Dr Chua Soi Lek in the contest for the deputy-president post.

Deputy Home Minister Chor Chee Heung lost his bid to be vice-president and Deputy National Unity, Culture, Arts and Heritage Minister Teng Boon Soon also lost the contest for a place on the central committee.

**No explanation from Muhyiddin**

On Umno politics, Abdullah said he has yet to receive deputy-presidential candidate Muhyiddin Yassin's explanation for his expression of support to bring forward party elections from next March 2009 back to December this year.

"Up until today, there's been nothing (from Muhyiddin)," said Abdullah, who is Umno president.

"There have been no (such) proposals," he added.

When asked further, Abdullah said it would be among the issues discussed at the party's supreme council meeting that will take place tonight.

"Wait. There, we will meet the media and we will inform you then," he said.

Although the party had adjourned its elections from December to next March, there have been renewed calls from various party leaders for the polls to be brought back to December.

Many said that the campaigning period was too long before party polls in five months time while others argued that this was a move to make Abdullah step down much earlier than his earlier promise to do so in March.