

Kuan Yew sends reply to Abdullah

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SINGAPORE: Singapore's founding father and Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew has written to Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi over his recent remarks about the Chinese being marginalised in Malaysia.

The Straits Times quoted Lee's press secretary, Y. Y. Yeong as saying the letter was now with the Singapore High Commission in Kuala Lumpur.

"(It) is ready to be personally conveyed to Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi," she said.

Abdullah wrote to Lee last week seeking clarification over the controversial remarks.

On Sept 15, Lee, 83, told a forum on good governance that

the attitude of Malaysia and Indonesia towards the republic was shaped by the way they treated their Chinese communities.

"My neighbours both have problems with their Chinese. They are successful, they're hardworking and therefore they are systematically marginalised, even in education.

"And they want Singapore, to put it simply, to be like their Chinese, compliant," Lee had said.

The remarks drew protests from Malaysia and Indonesia, with the foreign ministries of both countries summoning Singaporean envoys to explain Lee's remarks. — Bernama.