

Wee unfazed by Dr M's call for Umno to contest

By REMAR NORDIN
newsdesk@thestar.com.my

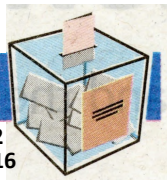
KUALA LUMPUR: MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Wee Ka Siong remains unperturbed by the challenge made by Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad for Umno to contest in the upcoming Tanjung Piai by-election.

Dr Wee, who is the Ayer Hitam MP, said the challenge was just a ploy to split Barisan Nasional com-

BY-ELECTION

**P165
TANJUNG PIAI**

Nomination day: **Nov 2**
Polling day: **Nov 16**



ponent parties.

"We know he was the Barisan chairman since 1981 and knows all of the mechanisms.

"This is a tactical move from Dr Mahathir and we do not feel threat-

ened by the challenge.

"Whether his goal is to split the party or to provoke certain parties to contest, for us, Barisan remains united to face tough competition since we're no longer the government," he said at the parliament lobby.

He was asked to comment on the challenge made by Dr Mahathir for Barisan to field a candidate from Umno in the by-election.

In Pontian, the Election Commission (EC) has given its assurance

that all 28 voting centres in the P.165 Tanjung Piai district are free from any risk of natural disasters such as floods.

EC secretary Datuk Mohamed Elias Abu Bakar said all the centres had no history of such issues.

"The EC has surveyed all polling district centres. So far, our preparations for the coming by-election have been going smoothly and we received good cooperation from all schools," he said after visiting the

SJKC Yu Ming district polling centre (PDM) in Pekan Nenas, yesterday.

He added that EC is currently organising the final draft and flow of logistics so that voters would not have to wait long and overcrowd the polling centres.

"We will be placing a lot more direction signage, as well as placing ramps at all PDM, especially those that have high or steep stairs so that voters who are in wheelchair can use it."