

Parliamentary Select Committee To Meet Election Commission
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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 1 (Bernama) -- The Parliamentary Select Committee (PSC) on electoral reform will meet the Election Commission (EC) during its first meeting with government agencies and department, said its chairman Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Ongkili.

However, he refused to comment on whether the meeting would touch on the EC proposal to allow for early or postal voting for sectors such as the media, medical, airlines and offshore oil and gas, as was the norm with the police and armed forces, for the 13th General Election.

"We have a meeting Tuesday, prior to the meeting with the EC Wednesday. We will only talk to the press after the meeting.

"PSC members want to hear from the EC what improvement they have embarked on, or are planning to implement," he told Bernama when asked to comment on the matter.

Recently, it was reported that the EC had proposed to allow for early or postal voting for those sectors, for the coming general election.

EC chairman Tan Sri Abdul Aziz Mohd Yusof had said the proposal would be discussed during the PSC meeting which had earlier evaluated several other suggestions, such as the use of indelible ink and the biometric system.

Meanwhile, the opposition pact PKR-DAP-PAS members of parliament (MP) in the PSC said they would appeal to the PSC to allow enough space for the Coalition for Clean and Fair Elections (Bersih 2.0) to explain their eight demands.

The PSC, mooted last month, comprises five BN parliamentarians, three from Pakatan and an Independent.

The members included Kapit MP Datuk Alexander Nanta Linggi (PBB), Kangar MP Mohd Radzi Sheikh Ahmad (Umno), Alor Gajah MP Fong Chan Onn (MCA) and Hulu Selangor MP P. Kamalanathan (MIC).

The opposition members include Azmin Ali (Gombak) Anthony Loke (Rasah), Dr Hatta Ramli (Kuala Krai) and Wangsa Maju MP Wee Choo Keong (Independent).

PSC has also arranged for six public hearings to further improve the electoral process with the first session to be held at the end of this month.

The panel has been given six months to come up with its recommendations.

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