

**DPM Hopes Jason Teoh Will Accept Decision Of BN Leadership On Gelang Patah Seat**  
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JOHOR BAHRU, April 16 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin hopes Gelang Patah MCA division chief Jason Teoh will respect the decision of the Barisan Nasional (BN) leadership to field Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman as the candidate for Gelang Patah to face Lim Kit Siang.

Muhyiddin said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak had already spoken to Jason Teoh over the phone, to give his views on the decision to field Abdul Ghani in the Gelang Patah Parliamentary seat.

"I hope after the clarification, Jason Teoh will join the campaign and MCA will inform all members accordingly to get all parties to help. Maybe he is not contesting this time, maybe (will contest) in future."

"I do not think he will be disappointed," he told reporters after a special meeting Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan Cina (SJKC) teachers in Johor at SJKC Foon Yew, here, Tuesday.

At the presentation of appointment letters for BN candidates today, it was confirmed that Abdul Ghani would be contesting the Gelang Patah Parliamentary seat against the DAP advisor in what is labelled as the 'Battle of Giants' by observers of the 13th general election.

Jason Teoh had earlier been tipped for the Gelang Patah seat before Pakatan Rakyat (PR) named Kit Siang as the candidate.

The decision to name the DAP advisor for the seat caused a change of strategy in BN, leading to the consideration of fielding a heavyweight, to defeat Kit Siang in the Parliamentary seat.

Muhyiddin hoped Jason Teoh will join Abdul Ghani in Gelang Patah to ensure BN's victory.

Asked of the possibility that Jason Teoh's supporters would be disappointed with the decision, thus affect BN's campaign, the Deputy Prime Minister said he was confident such a situation would not arise.

"I hope it (campaign) will not be affected. I am confident it will be resolved in 24 hours. It's better for us to their reaction early so that we can manage it," he said.

Muhyiddin said BN had a specific strategy to defeat Kit Siang in Gelang Patah and wanted all component parties to play their role as a team in the Parliamentary seat concerned.

"We have to work out a detailed strategy to win," he said, adding that Abdul Ghani is very familiar with Gelang Patah community as well as the rapid development taking place.

He also asked Gelang Patah voters to scrutinise Kit Siang as well as DAP's divisive, racist and chauvinist political culture which is not suitable for the Johor community.

The Johor community's culture of practicing cooperation and respect among the races without feelings of jealousy, will be affected if they accept the political culture of DAP.

"They need to evaluate wisely, the Malays have to understand who is Lim Kit Siang and whether he is suitable for them," said Muhyiddin.

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