

National Ops Council for Kelantan?

STAR 28 OKT 1977

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that a National Operations Council type of administration might be introduced in Kelantan if the political crisis in the State could not be resolved.

He said the present situation, if allowed to continue, would affect the security, stability and unity of the people in the State.

Speaking to reporters here after presenting an educational award from the Guthrie group to a Johore student, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said that the Federal Government was concerned with the Kelantan problems.

He said the political crisis here would be detrimental to order and stability and economic development of the State.

Asked about the report that students were involved in the Assembly and demonstration in Kelantan, he said the authorities would investigate.

If they were found to be actually involved, they would be dealt with under the Universities and University Colleges Act, he said.

Meanwhile, Kelantan PAS today welcome Prime Minister Datuk Hussein Onn's statement that he hoped the political crisis in Kelantan would be resolved in a week or so.

PAS Liaison Committee Secretary Haji Sallahuddin Abdullah, who is an executive councillor, said he hoped the existing co-operation among component parties in the Barisan Nasional would be maintained under the leadership of Datuk Hussein.

He added that the committee's decision regarding the formula to solve the crisis would be forwarded to PAS President Datuk Haji Mohamad Asri, after its meeting next week.

Mentri Besar Datuk Haji Mohamed Nasir, who returned here from Kuala Lumpur, declined to comment on the latest developments.