

# No plan to review Drugs Act, says PM

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THE Government does not plan to review the Dangerous Drugs Act as it forms a vital element in the prevention of dadah abuse, Datuk Seri Datuk Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

He told the Dewan Rakyat that dadah traffickers could be considered mass murderers as they caused a lot of suffering to their victims.

Replying to Encik Mutang Tagal (PBB-Bt Mas), he said the Government was responsible for protecting the people against dadah trafficking.

He said the Government's recent decision to hang two Australians,

Kevin John Barlow and Brian Geoffrey Chambers, did not affect the country's image in the international community.

"On the contrary, many countries and foreign newspapers fully supported the Government's action as well as our laws on dadah abuse," he said.

To a supplementary question by Mr Karpal Singh (DAP-Jelutong), the Prime Minister said that on his way back from the UN conference, he met leaders from US, England and Japan who expressed support for the Government's action.

Dr Mahathir said he had just recently received a letter from an Australian who expressed support

for the Government's action.

An Australian newspaper cutting on the Prime Minister's speech at the UN conference was also included.

He said the Government had determined tough penalties against dadah offenders in view of it being a serious threat to society.

The death penalty, he said, was not unknown in other countries including those in the West.

"Foreigners have no excuse for not knowing our tough dadah laws.

"There is wide publicity in the mass media and announcements are made on MAS aircraft arriving in Malaysia," he said.