

# **VIEW STAND OF PARTIES FIRST, PM TELLS GROUP**

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KOTA BARU, Thurs. — Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad said today the Bersatu group should go back to their respective parties to determine their stand.

"Their parties may not have the same stand. By right, they should first determine the stand of their respective parties before making such a serious decision (to rebel).

"The group should not have done it without a mandate from their parties," he told reporters after opening the Kelantan Umno building.

Dr Mahathir also said it was up to the parties concerned to take whatever action if the rebels were unhappy with their stand.

"My advice is that all should return to their parties and come up with a stand through discussions. If the parties support them, it is different. Otherwise, what they did are personal actions," he said.

Dr Mahathir also said he had advised Sarawak Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud to act according to the law.

He said Datuk Patinggi Taib still enjoyed the confidence of the people because the "vote of no confidence" was moved in Kuala Lumpur.

He added that everyone should respect the law in their efforts to overcome their problems. "I believe

the leaders who are involved should adhere to the laws and not do anything beyond what is circumscribed by the law."

Dr Mahathir said he could not make an assessment of the political situation in Sarawak which he described as "still cloudy."

"What I know is that a group came to Kuala Lumpur to make an announcement and Datuk Taib also made an announcement.

"We don't have a true picture yet, as to what is actually happening in Sarawak. Let us wait to see the real situation," he added.