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KUALA ROMPIN, Thurs.
— Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad expressed regret today that certain people have accused Wisma Putra of not having given proper treatment to Malaysians stranded in Kuwait.

"I read a letter in the letters column of a newspaper today which alleged that Wisma Putra had not treated the people well. This has saddened me," the Prime Minister said when launching an orang asli settlement in Kedaik.

"We should look at the Bangladeshis, Indians and people from Egypt who are still stranded there today. They have no food or place to sleep and are fighting over a piece of bread. The situation is so bad that Malaysia had decided to extend food aid to them now. The Government managed to get our citizens out unhurt and it's regrettable that some people are not thankful," Dr Mahathir added.

Dr Mahathir said he had spoken to the Malaysian consul in Amman (Jordan) and was told that the Malaysians were the luckiest of the lot stranded in the Middle East.

He said the Malaysians were moved to a five-star hotel through Wisma Putra's efforts and were given proper food and facilities until they were moved to Baghdad and Amman before being flown home.

"These 'people who complained' are not thankful for what they have received. I think the only thing that we fell short was providing them with a palace," he added.