

Mahathir-PBS

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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 30. (Bernama) — The Federal Government will not hesitate to act against anyone who goes against the law even if it is accused of suppression by taking such action, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

+Those guilty should be regarded as such, irrespective of the political implications,+ he said when opening the Umno general assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) here.

The prime minister made the reminder when he spoke on Sabah, especially on the alleged instigation of the people by the Parti Bersatu Sabah government to hate the Federal Government.

+The people of Sabah have never hated the Federal Government until the PBS came to power,+ Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir, who is Umno president, told the 1,500 delegates.

+Through the Institute for Development Studies, Sabah, various matters were raised to fan hatred towards Malaysia among the people of Sabah to deliver political victory to PBS,+ he said. -- more

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Another institution has now been formed in Sabah to +brainwash+ the people in the state, he said but did not name the organisation.

+The denial by the Sabah chief minister that this was not his intention was only an excuse because in his speech at the PBS general assembly recently, he made ridiculous accusations against the Federal Government which made the people of Sabah even more angry with the Federal Government,+ he said.

+By diverting the attention of the people of Sabah from the various misdeeds of PBS leaders within Sabah, PBS hopes to continue to govern Sabah,+ he said.

They had succeeded with such tactics to the extent that even PBS leaders who have flouted the laws are regarded as heroes by the people of Sabah when legal action was taken by the Federal Government against them,+ he said.

+With this, the PBS leaders hope they are free to abuse their powers without any restraint,+ he said. -- more

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He said the Federal Government's policy towards Sabah is clear. +We would like to ensure that the wealth of Sabah is not controlled by certain people through abuses of power.

+We are not taking sides. We are not putting one race or religious group above the other,+ he said.

Although Sabah is governed by the PBS, the Federal Government has no intention to victimise the people of Sabah, said Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir.

+All races in Sabah will be treated fairly, although the channels will be changed,+ he said.

+If Sabah now finds itself less productive, the reason is that the PBS Government has over-produced the state's timber without financing development for the people,+ he said.

+With its huge timber earnings, the development in Sabah should have been on par with Sarawak. But, it is very obvious that Sabah is lagging behind,+ he said. -- Bernama