

Illegal to hold vote on secession: Dr M

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — It is against the law to hold a referendum on whether Sabah should continue to remain in Malaysia, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

"The question of a referendum does not arise because the law does not allow any state to secede from the federation," he told a press conference after chairing an Umno supreme council meeting.

The Prime Minister was commenting on a report that PBS MP for Tuaran Datuk Monggoh Orow had allegedly proposed that a

referendum be held on the position of Sabah.

A Sabah Umno special functions officer Haji Jabbar Khan Napi lodged a police report yesterday alleging that Datuk Monggoh made the statement at the sixth PBS annual delegates assembly in Kota Kinabalu on Sunday.

Police in Sabah have, meanwhile, classified the report under the Sedition Act.

"We are investigating it under the Seditious Act," Sabah OCCI Supt Hassan Abdul Mutalib said in Kota Kinabalu today.