
No hudud laws in Umno states

S - 3 MAY 1992

By LEE KAR YEAN

KUALA LUMPUR: *Hudud* laws will not be implemented in states ruled by Umno, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

The Prime Minister said Umno would not implement such laws after taking into consideration the multiracial and multi-religious society of the country.

"We have decided against such laws because we follow

the Islamic civil laws and take into consideration *syariah* teachings," he said after chairing a three-hour Umno supreme council meeting here.

Dr Mahathir, who is Umno president and Barisan chairman, accused PAS of trying to gain political mileage when it announced its intention to implement such laws in Kelantan.

"It is clear that PAS' intention is purely political and not for religious purposes," he said.

PAS, he added, was only waiting for the chance to put Umno in a position to appear as though it was the stumbling block for the plan to implement *hudud* laws.

He also questioned PAS' readiness to implement such laws as it did not have the experience or facilities to do it.

Dr Mahathir said Umno would not prevent PAS from implementing Islamic laws on its own as long as it complied

with the requirements of Islam and only in places where PAS was in power.

Among those present at the meeting were Umno deputy president Abdul Ghafar Baba, vice-presidents Datuk Seri Sanusi Junid and Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Wanita chief Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz and secretary-general Datuk Mohamed Rahmat.

Last week, MCA, Gerakan and MIC had objected strongly against PAS' move.