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PM WANTS WRITTEN UNDERTAKING FROM KELANTAN'

Mahathir-Pergau

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BANDAR PERMAISURI, July 17 (Bernama) --. The Prime Minister wants the Kelantan government to give a written undertaking that it would not interrupt the work on Pergau Hydro-electric dam project.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said this was necessary to ensure that project would progress smoothly.

+It must be a written and legally binding undertaking . . . if not, we cannot resume work,+ he told reporters after opening a sheep rearing farm at Caluk, Setiu, near here.

Dr Mahathir was asked to comment on the statement by Kelantan Deputy Menteri Besar Abdul Halim Abdul Rahman that the state government would not interrupt the work.

Abdul Halim, however, said that the state government would not give a written undertaking on the matter.--more

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Mahathir - Pergau 2 (last) Bandar Permaisuri

The Prime Minister said there was no harm in giving a written undertaking for a good cause.

+We are not asking more than that,+ he added.

Dr Mahathir said the undertaking must be in a written form. It could be part of the original agreement or on its own.

He said the Kelantan government had one month to sign the agreement. He did not want problems relating to administration to be raised by the state government as this would only delay the project.

On the Kelantan government's refusal to pay part of the compensation to the main contractor for the stoppage of work due to state government's action, Dr Mahathir said there was a need to discuss the matter.

Work on the Pergau dam project stopped for 11 days from July 4 when the Kelantan government closed the roads leading to the work site.

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