

Don't turn Bosnia into political issue, PAS told

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KUALA LUMPUR: Umno President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed has warned PAS against turning the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina into a political issue.

He said the Government and various bodies had taken various measures to ease the sufferings of the Bosnians.

Dr Mahathir said the Government and Abim had collected donations, clothing and given temporary shelter to Bosnian families and orphans.

"These people came to Malaysia because they heard through the radio in Sarajevo and Zagreb that we are prepared to give temporary shelter," he told newsmen after chairing an Umno supreme council vesterdav.

The Prime Minister said PAS president Hani Fadzil Nor had yesterday sent a telegram to him demanding take the Government to take immediate action on the Bosnia-Herzegovina situation.

They included sending the army, pressuring the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the United Nations to take action against Yugoslavia and giving an ultimatum to

the UN to review Yugoslavia's position.

Dr Mahathir said the telegram was a result of a PAS meeting on Oct 11.

He said: "I am surprised that they took nearly a month to send the telegram when the Government has already taken action."

"How can we send our army there when there is no decision (by the UN) to defend Bosnia?"

"We will participate (in such mission) when the OIC and the UN make a decision to save Bosnia," he said.

He said if PAS was eager to help, the party should send its own members.

He viewed the telegram as an attempt by PAS to politicise the issue to gain political mileage.

On the three-day general assembly beginning today, Dr Mahathir said the supreme council discussed the agenda and programme.

He said the council was briefed on the Youth and Wanita assemblies yesterday.

He said the council also discussed the resolution to be debated at the general assembly.