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PM-Sultan

PRIME MINIST HAPPY OVER POSTPONEMENT OF PROSPOSED GATHERING

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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 3⁹³ (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight he is happy with the Sultan of Selangor's announcement on the postponement of the gathering scheduled for Friday at Istana Besar in Johor Baharu.

He said the postponement would avoid any tension and described it as a good sign.

He said this when met by reporters after a dinner at a hotel here.

The Sultan of Johor made the announcement after the majlis Lhatam (completion of Quran reading) of his daughter, Tinku Mona, at Istana Besar in Johor Baharu today.

He said the gathering was postponed indefinitely after taking into account several factors.

Yesterday the Sultan granted an audience to Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Haniff Omar and Johor Chief Police Officer SAC Ismail Che Rus at Istana Bukit Serene in connection with the gathering. -- more

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PM-Sultan 2 (last) Kuala Lumpur

On the meeting of Parti Semangat 46 president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah and his deputy, Datuk Rais Yatim, with the Malay Rulers, the prime minister said it was their prerogative.

However, he hoped that no political parties were dragged into the issue because the government's aim was to safeguard the image of the rulers and not to remove their powers.

Tengku Razaleigh, at a special Semangat 46 assembly in Kota Bharu, Kelantan, today, said he and Rais had met all the Malay Rulers to explain the party's stand on the proposed amendment to the Federal Constitution to remove the immunity from prosecution enjoyed by the rulers.

At the assembly the party unanimously opposed the proposed amendment because it felt that the sovereignty of the rulers was the sovereignty and supremacy of the Malays. -- Bernama

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