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# Dr M: Ibrahim Sun. T. 11 APR 1993 has the right to make claim

KLJALA LUMPUR, Sat. — Tengku Ibrahim Petra has every right to stake his claim to the Kelantan throne as long as it is made in through legal means, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

Dr Mahathir said: "It's his right. But it must be in accordance with the country's normal practices, especially through the legal channels."

He said this when asked to comment on the decision by Tengku Ibrahim Petra, the Petra Finance Berhad executive chairman, to take steps to assert his birth-right.

Speaking to reporters at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Subang on his return from an eight-day official visit to Uzbekistan and Iran, Dr Mahathir said the matter could be possibly be referred to the Special Court to be set up to try

Rulers (following the passing of the Constitution Amendment Bill, 1993) which had received the consent of Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Azlan Shah.

The 37-year-old cousin of the present Kelantan Ruler announced his decision to claim the throne two days ago.

Asked about the decision by the police not to grant a permit for a gathering in Kota Baru today, Dr Mahathir said it was up to the relevant officers to decide.

He said plans were underway to organise Uzbekistan and Iran Week in Malaysia to introduce the countries' products and cultural heritage here.

Among those present to welcome the Prime Minister were his deputy Abdul Ghafar Baba, Deputy Home Minister Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayub and senior civil servants.