

SEX SLAVES

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The Prime Minister yesterday

By TAN KIM BOCK

KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday launched a blistering attack on marriage practices in the Al Arqam movement, likening their women as “sex slaves” trapped in a form of “prostitution.”

“The movement is more inclined towards the satisfaction of their (leaders’) desires, especially in women and sex,” the Prime Minister said.

“Islam is only used as a mask. They marry and divorce at will and some of their marriages are very temporary. When they get bored they divorce.

“Ashaari himself has at least four wives,” Dr Mahathir said.

To a question, the Prime Minister said he had no knowledge if Umno had offered positions to Al Arqam members in the past.

“When they started, they were not what they are today, so maybe they may have been invited to join Umno but I myself have never offered them anything,” he told reporters after paying an official visit to the federal police headquarters at Bukit Aman here.

On his meeting with Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Rahim Noor and other top policemen, Dr Mahathir said he had directed the police to prepare a report on how to fight the drug menace.

He said the Cabinet would adopt more measures in battling the nation’s drug problem based on the report.

“Although we have tough anti-narcotics laws, the number of addicts in this country continues to grow.

“There are about 180,000 drug addicts in this country, 78,000 of whom are hard-core.

“The Serenti centres that we have can only accommodate 10,000,” he said, adding that the Government was contemplating building more such centres and increase the number of personnel involved in drug rehabilitation.

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