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Mahathir-Rahim

REPORT BY AGGRIEVED PARTY WILL FACILITATE PROBE AGAINST RAHIM, SAYS PM

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GENTING HIGHLANDS, Aug 28 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister ¹⁷⁴ Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today a police report by the aggrieved party will facilitate investigations against Melaka Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik over his alleged affair with a 15-year-old girl.

He also said that the government would not stop the police from investigating the allegations even if a report has not been lodged with them.

"It will be left to those responsible (the police). If they feel they (the police) have the authority (to investigate), we (the government) have no objections," he said when replying to reporters' questions after watching the 3rd Asean Show Jumping Competition at the Awana Horse Ranch, here.

Dr Mahathir was asked whether the aggrieved party in the allegation had to make a report to enable the police to begin investigations.

Deputy Home Minister Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayob had reportedly said yesterday that police could only begin investigations into the allegations if there was a report from the aggrieved party. -- more

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Mahathir-Rahim 2 (last) Genting Highlands

However, Attorney-General Datuk Mohtar Abdullah had said that police could begin investigations based on information from sources or the newspapers.

Dr Mahathir, who is the Home Minister, said: "If something is wrong, we sometimes do not wait for reports.

"When we see a robber, do we want to ask whether a report has been made (before we start investigations)? he asked.

Last Thursday, the prime minister directed the authorities to investigate the allegations after a local newspaper reported that Rahim would resign as Melaka chief minister and Umno Youth leader owing to personal problems.

Rahim, however, has repeatedly dismissed the allegations that he had had an affairs with a Form Three girl and that there was no reason for him to resign from the posts. -- Bernama

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