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Mahathir-Bukvic

BUKVIC'S DEATH WILL BE LOOKED INTO, SAYS MAHATHIR

PETALING JAYA, Feb 21 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the death of the Bosnia-Herzegovina charge d'affaires, Ibrahim Bukvic, 55, will be looked into.

"Yes, we will look into the death and see what happened," he told reporters after signing the condolence book at the Bosnia-Herzegovina here.

The younger of Bukvic's two sons, Amer, 22, a student at the International Islamic University, yesterday expressed dismay over the treatment his father received at the Pantai Medical Centre where he died at 12.30am.

Bukvic, who was admitted to the private hospital on Jan 31, underwent a series of four operations, including for an appendix and blocked intestine before he died, according to Amer.

Asked about the son's dissatisfaction with the hospital, Dr Mahathir said: "Yes, we will look into it and see what happened.

"I don't know... we will look into it first. If the Bukvic family's grievance is true, we regret it."

Dr Mahathir and his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, who arrived at the embassy in Jalan 16/6 here just after 9am, both signed the condolence book.

Acting Foreign Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar, who is the Minister of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs, also signed the book.

Bukvic leaves behind a wife, Vahida, 52, two sons Tarik, 28 and Amer, and a 13-year-old daughter, Amina.

Later, Abu Hassan said Wisma Putra had not receive any formal complaint from the Bukvic family about the medical treatment Bukvic received prior to his death.

"We will look into what actually happened and see how we can enlighten the family. Wisma Putra will look into it. We will ask the hospital to give us a full briefing as soon as possible.

"I am sure after reading today's newspaper report the hospital will prepare a report."

Bukvic will be buried at the Bukit Kiara Muslim cemetery at 1.30pm today.

-- BERNAMA

JSM LDB