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Parliament-Act

INTERNAL SECURITY ACT TO BE REVIEWED, SAYS MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, April 2 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad told the Dewan Rakyat today the government has decided to review the Internal Security Act.

Mahathir, also the Home Affairs Minister, said between 1986 and 1996, a total of 692 people had been detained under the Act.

Replying to a written question by Lim Eng Guan (DAP-Kota Melaka), he said they were detained for involvement in activities prejudicial to national security, the essential services and the national economy.

Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat said his ministry was conducting a review to ascertain that direct selling conformed to the Advertisement Code.

Replying to Akbarkhan Abdul Rahman (BN-Libaran), he said the advertisement code and direct selling methods were also being reviewed.

In the review, things like direct sales advertisements that contradicted the government's Zero Inflation campaign would be studied to ensure that they were in line with governmental efforts to reduce the national deficit, he added.

Since most of the goods offered in direct sales were imported, and the choice media of advertisement was the television, the ministry had to study the matter in greater detail, he said.

This was to ensure that whatever decision taken would not have any negative effect on the direct sales industry in general and on the policy of encouraging entrepreneur development.

Mohamed also said the government would ensure that network infrastructure planning and telecommunication services in the country were at par with international standards. -- BERNAMA

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