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Mahathir-Ghani

PM TO DIRECT INVESTIGATIONS INTO ABDUL GHANI'S ALLEGATIONS

LANGKAWI, Aug 10 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that he will direct the relevant authorities to investigate allegations by former Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) chief Lt Jen Datuk Seri Abdul Ghani Aziz of former RMAF officers selling unsuitable and obsolete equipment to the RMAF.

Dr Mahathir said that he had not received inputs and information on the equipment said to be unsuitable and obsolete.

"I will ask the relevant authorities to study whether the allegations are true or not," he told reporters after attending the marriage ceremony of Annuar Ibrahim and Juliana Alias at Kampung Tok Senik, a resort based on the traditional Malay kampung concept, at Mata Air, here.

Dr Mahathir was asked to comment on press reports that Abdul Ghani had accused former RMAF officers who became defence equipment suppliers of selling unsuitable and obsolete equipment to the RMAF, placing serving air force personnel at risk.

Abdul Ghani was also reported as saying there were attempts by well-connected arms dealers to create "mini-RMAFs" and overrule decisions without the knowledge of the RMAF chief.

Dr Mahathir said that an investigation would be conducted to verify such allegations.

Yesterday, Defence Minister Datuk Syed Hamid Albar called on Abdul Ghani to come forward to assist into investigations by submitting proof.

He said that the allegations were serious as they affected national security.

There should proof to such allegations so that the ministry could take stern action against those involved, he added. -- BERNAMA

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