

21 NOV 1997

HOME MINISTRY TO ACT AGAINST RUMOUR MONGERS

ALOR SETAR, Nov 21 (Bernama) -- Deputy Home Minister Datuk Ong Ka Ting today said the government will take action against those spreading rumours which can jeopardise national security.

Ong said existing laws provide for action against rumour mongers because they were out to sabotage the country.

However action could only be taken against rumour-mongers in the country, he told reporters here after meeting local business leaders.

"The government cannot take action against rumour mongers outside the country. Usually foreign rumour-mongers influence Malaysians by posing various theories," he said.

He cited rumours of run on local banks and resignation of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as those which could create public unrest. -- BERNAMA

MZM ZUL rn