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Suleiman-Media

INFORMATION MINISTRY CONSIDERING BUYING AIR TIME ON FOREIGN TV

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 16 (Bernama) -- The Information Ministry may buy space in newspapers and air time on television to correct distortions about Malaysia in Western media, Deputy Minister Datuk Suleiman Mohamed said today.

"We will buy advertising space and television air time in the United States and Europe if the Cabinet gives its approval," he said.

The ministry was considering this move because it was almost impossible to get Western newspapers and television stations to allow Malaysia to give a true account of the situation for free, he told reporters after opening a free medical camp here.

Suleiman said this when asked to comment on the views of certain people including New Straits Times group editor Datuk A. Kadir Jasin that the Information Ministry should also be involved in providing information about Malaysia abroad.

He said the ministry wanted to give the true picture on Malaysia's policies and especially on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's actions in dealing with the currency problem.

Many countries that were also affected by attacks on their currencies by speculators agreed with the statements made by Dr Mahathir which they were not bold enough to say so themselves, said Suleiman.

As a result, he said, it was Dr Mahathir and Malaysia who became the target of the foreign media. -- BERNAMA

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