

19/11/1997

Johor State Assembly pledges support to PM

JOHOR BARU, Tues. - The Johor State Assembly today passed unanimously an emergency motion supporting the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The emergency motion, tabled by Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman, condemned the draft resolution of the 34 United States Congressmen asking Dr Mahathir to apologise or resign because of his alleged "anti-American and anti-Semitic" remarks.

It also strongly objected to the US move to investigate Petronas' proposed gas exploration project in Iran.

The emergency motion stated that Malaysia was an independent and sovereign country with pride and dignity.

"Malaysia has the rights and freedom based on the principles of democracy and human rights to chart its future in terms of politics, and foreign and economic policies, in particular when trading with other countries," it said.

"The move to investigate Petronas because of its dealings with Iran is an act of arrogance and extreme, and trespasses upon the freedom of international trading," it said.

On Dr Mahathir, the motion said the assembly accepted and recognised him as Prime Minister who had been elected by the people through the democratic process, and appreciated his endeavours towards building a progressive, sovereign and respected nation.

(END)