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Lim: PM must table emergency motion

DATUK Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad should table an emergency Parliamentary motion of confidence in his leadership as Prime Minister on Monday so that the country and people can move on to address the economic problem, Lim Kit Siang (DAP-Tanjung) told the Dewan Rakyat.

The Opposition Leader said there was no doubt the motion would get overwhelming support.

Speaking during a debate on the Bernama Bill 1997, Lim said the motion would be more meaningful than unproductive activities such as public demonstrations and the wearing of North-Korean type of badges to show their support for the leadership.

"The Opposition had not asked for the resignation of Dr Mahathir as Prime Minister.

"However, if Dr Mahathir feels it necessary to demonstrate to the world that he still commands the confidence of the people to continue as Prime Minister, he should defer the debate on the 1998 budget proposals on Monday and move the emergency confidence vote."

Lim said the central issue was to address the national economic problem rather than organise public demonstrations.

Meanwhile, Abdul Rahman Sulaiman (BN-Parit Buntar), debating on the Bernama Bill said the time had come for the country to establish an international news agency to counter the conspiracy of the foreign media.

The Government and the private sector should initiate the proposal which could provide correct information to foreign media.

The House later approved the Bill which withdraws Bernama's exclusive rights to receive and distribute news or news material from foreign agencies or other organisations.

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