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Umno-Cigarette

MAHATHIR "NABS" MINISTER THROWING CIGARETTE BUTT IN FLOWER POT

By: Sobrey Jaafar

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 7 (Bernama) -- A minister was "caught" not by police or enforcement officers at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) but by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad himself for throwing a cigarette butt into a flower pot during the Umno General Assembly.

Though "no smoking" signs were seen in every nook and corner of the building, many just ignored it.

The minister, who was smoking outside the no-smoking zone yesterday, was "nabbed" by the Prime Minister when he (the minister) threw the cigarette butt into a flower pot in front of the VIP lounge.

The incident was related to Bernama by a top official of Putrade Sdn Bhd, the company which manages the PWTC.

He exposed the incident when asked about the "no smoking" signs being ignored by many Umno delegates, observers, journalists and the public during the four-day assembly which ends today.

" You know, yesterday PM himself caught one minister when he saw him throwing a cigarette butt in the flower pot," said the officer pointing to the flower pot.

According to the officer, Dr Mahathir told the minister: " So you are the culprit who likes to throw rubbish in flower pots, I'm trying to clean Bukit Bintang, but you ...."

Recently Dr Mahathir was irked by the people's indifferent attitude towards cleanliness when he saw rubbish scattered in Bukit Bintang.

The issue of Bukit Bintang being dirty was also raised by delegates at the assembly.

Kedah delegate Datuk Badruddin Amiruldin said he sympathised with Dr Mahathir who also had to deal with the rubbish problem in Bukit Bintang which is the job of the Kuala Lumpur City Hall.

Smoking is among the habits which Dr Mahathir disliked most and he had often voiced his views on the matter. -- BERNAMA

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