

No terrorist activities in M'sia, says PM

KUALA LUMPUR: There is no need for the United States to issue a warning of a threat to US interests in Malaysia as there are no terrorist activities in the country, said Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The Prime Minister said the US State Department's statement on the alleged threat, which had included Malaysia, would result in attention not being paid to other countries where bombings on buildings might occur.

"Of course, it (attacks on US interests) can happen anywhere but I think focusing on Malaysia may result in not paying attention to some other countries where you don't suspect it but it could happen, as it happened in Tanzania and Kenya, where obviously they did not expect it.

"Focusing on Malaysia will mean it will not happen here because those people are not going to come here," he told reporters after the handing over of the *Jalur Gemilang* to the Malaysian contingent for the Commonwealth Games at the National Sports Complex in Rukit Jalil.

The State Department issued a statement on Tuesday, alleging that threats to its interests such as attacks on buildings might occur in Malaysia, Egypt and Yemen.

To another question, Dr Mahathir said he did not know why Malaysia was singled out instead of troubled countries.

"I just don't understand this but maybe they know something that we don't know. But as far as we can tell there is no danger here," he said.

He also said he did not know why the statement came from the US government, stating that: "I really cannot say anything because these are very sensitive. We are not supposed to say anything because it might be misinterpreted."

On whether the Government would assist the US Embassy here in providing protection, Dr Mahathir said: "If they think they are in danger, they can ask us for protection. We will be ever willing to do so."