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Mahathir-Country

DR M HITS OUT AT ANWAR'S SUPPORTERS SEEKING SYMPATHY OVERSEAS

PETALING JAYA, Oct 10 (Bernama) -- Malaysians who love their country will not run down the nation abroad, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

Those doing so were "painting themselves with dirt", he told reporters after opening an industrial design and technology exhibition at the Sunway Pyramid Convention Centre near here.

He was asked to comment on reports that a small group of supporters of sacked Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim had gone overseas to seek sympathy for Anwar.

Asked if their action could be considered as treason, the Prime Minister said: "I don't know about treason but I think people who have any love for their own country would not do that."

He said if they had a problem in Malaysia, it should be settled within the country.

"You don't go around running down your own country to other people," he said.

Asked if action would be taken against them, he said there was nothing that could be done unless they violated the law.

On Malaysia's election to a Non-Permanet UN Security Council seat, Dr Mahathir said he was very happy especially over the fact that Kuala Lumpur received the highest number of votes.

Asked on the role that the country would play, he said Malaysia would stick to facts whenever it commented on anything.

"We would not be bias, we would hold to our principle and we will be free from all influences... we'll make fair comment," he said.

--BERNAMA

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