

05 AUG 1998

Sabbaruddin-Umno

DR M TO BRIEF UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL ABOUT DISPUTE WITH S'PORE

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 5 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected give a briefing on relations between Malaysia and Singapore when the Umno Supreme Council meets on Friday.

Party secretary-general Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik told reporters this here today after attending lunch with several other ministers in conjunction with the launching of a book donation drive by Dr Mahathir.

He said the move to discuss the Customs, Immigration and Quarantine (CIQ) checkpoint issue in Parliament yesterday showed that the whole nation was behind Dr Mahathir on Malaysia's stand on the matter.

"The party has no problems supporting the Prime Minister," he said.

Yesterday, Dr Mahathir reminded Singapore not to take Malaysia's good naturedness for granted in the wake of the row between the two countries over the location of Malaysia's CIQ checkpoint at the Tanjong Pagar railway station in the republic.

Malaysia has declined to relocate the checkpoint as wanted by Singapore which has moved its CIQ facilities from Tanjong Pagar to Woodlands.

In its reaction to the issue, Umno Youth had proposed that the government suspend fresh bilateral dealings with Singapore until the republic stated its official position on contentious issues such as Malaysia's water supply to Singapore and the position of Malaysia's railway land in Singapore.

-- BERNAMA

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