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Keng Yaik: Local Press should pay heed to PM's advice

LUMUT, Mon. - Gerakan President Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik said the local Press should pay heed to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's advice not to persist in publishing negative reports of the country which could be exploited by the foreign media.

"The local Press should print reports which can promote a conducive atmosphere especially on the economic situation of the country," he added.

Speaking after meeting party members in Pantai Remis, near here yesterday, he said the local media should not provide "ammunition" for the foreign Press to publish reports out of proportion.

Dr Lim was commenting on the statement by the Prime Minister who said some segments of the local media deliberately highlighted negative reports on the country.

Journalists should make proper investigations before publishing their reports, he said.

Lim also took to task DAP secretary-general Lim Kit Siang for saying that there was a "black hand" behind the media in exploiting the crisis in the party.

Kit Siang had said that there was a "black hand" behind certain media campaigns to exploit the party's crisis and destroy DAP to help the Barisan Nasional in the next general election.

Meanwhile, Dr Lim who is also Primary Industries Minister said he had asked the Minister of Science, Technology and Environment, Datuk Law Hieng Ding, to speed up the issue of a list of the types of waste that could be disposed by burning in rubber smallholdings.

"This is to avoid the smallholders from being fined by the Department of Environment for open burning," he said, adding that Law had earlier promised that such a list would be distributed for the benefit of the smallholders.

He said now was the season for replanting of rubber and oil palm but many smallholders were facing the problem of clearing the waste on their plots because of DOE conditions.

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