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Mahathir-Organisations

MORE ORGANISATIONS, VOLUNTARY BODIES SUPPORT DR MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 4 (Bernama) -- More organisations, associations and voluntary bodies today expressed support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's action in removing Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim from the cabinet.

Generally, they stated that Dr Mahathir had the prerogative as head of the government and he must have placed the interest of the nation above all other factors in coming to such a decision.

The Malaysian Malay Life Endowment Insurance Agents Association (Jamin) fully supports Dr Mahathir's firm and bold action in sacking Anwar, said its president, Mohamed Zainuddin Abu Bakar.

In his statement, he said that Anwar, as Finance Minister, had favoured International Monetary Fund (IMF) measures and failed to heed the Prime Minister's recommendations in dealing with the economic problem.

When the nation's economic growth was over 8 per cent for 10 consecutive years under the leadership of Dr Mahathir, Anwar had proudly announced that the country's administration was very good.

But as soon as the IMF stated that the country's economic problems were due to bad management practices, Anwar made a 360 degree turn and support such claims, said Mohamed Zainuddin.

He said that Jamin fully supports the drastic measures taken by Dr Mahathir to revive the economy.

Meanwhile, the Umno Parliamentarians Club believes that Anwar's expulsion from Umno is to safeguard the party's image and good name.

Its chairman, Datuk Dr Jamaluddin Jarjis, said all the club members had expressed support for Dr Mahathir's action through their respective state representatives.

"As parliamentarians, we urge all Malaysians to be calm and to stand behind the party leadership in facing the current situation," he told a media conference, here after a meeting with the club members.

Asked whether the support was unanimous as only 21 members had attended the meeting, Jamaluddin, the MP for Rompin, said the others had expressed their stand to him and through their representatives.

The club members also supported Dr Mahathir's dismissal of Anwar as deputy prime minister and finance minister two days ago.

"We believe that the prime minister has given it considerable thought before making the decision," he said.

"Many of Dr Mahathir's actions have proven correct and productive. Although some of his decisions and actions had been questioned, they had ultimately proven to be correct and useful," he said.

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