

Websites used to attack Government identified

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. — The Umno anti-defamation committee has identified more than 40 websites on the Internet used to attack and slander the Government and its leaders.

Three of them, the Reformasi, FreeMalaysia and Mahafiraun 2020 sites had been determined as most active in slandering and tarnishing the Government.

Committee chairman Datuk Ibrahim Ali said the actions were dangerous as the people involved were inciting the people to create chaos as had happened in a neighbouring country.

"All the websites contained untruths or half-truths. A large number of them are perpetuated by Opposition parties having their own motives."

He was disappointed with their attitude in championing reformation and abusing Internet communication.

Ibrahim said if they did not like the present Government and its leaders, they could make a change through the general election but not through the Internet. *

* He said this after flagging off a walkathon held in conjunction with the Bar Council's Family Day 1999 at the Lake Gardens.

Ibrahim, who is also an Umno supreme council member, said he believed that people were not swayed by the messages as their senders were not identified and as such their actions were similar to those who sent poison-pen letters.

He added that it was difficult to identify the senders as most of the messages were sent from abroad.

Ibrahim said the people also were convinced that the country's judiciary was credible and that allegations to the contrary were baseless.

"Many allegations had been made questioning the independence of the judiciary and the public was now convinced that this was not so.

"I hope that we maintain the strong respect the public has for the judiciary. We must strive to ensure that all levels of society has that respect."

Meanwhile, Ibrahim said his committee had lodged 11 police reports on various cases involving slander.

The committee had also decided to take nine cases to court with five already filed with the courts.