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Abdullah-Protests

DEMONSTRATORS SHOULDN'T DISTURB OTHERS - ABDULLAH

MUADZAM SHAH, April 17 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi today expressed regret that certain supporters of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim are still holding street demonstrations in Kuala Lumpur.

He said these people were acting in an unruly manner to vent their anger against Anwar's conviction for abuse of power on Wednesday.

"In other places, those found guilty are sentenced but in our country there are people who say the decision is not right," he told reporters after opening the Rompin Umno division delegates' meeting here.

Abdullah said the demonstrators should not cause problems to people who were carrying out their duties.

"I hope Malaysians, the majority of whom are peace-loving, value security and do not want their livelihood to be affected should voice their stand so that this thing does not continue on," he said.

Abdullah said holding street demonstrations was not the way to bring about changes.

If laws needed to be changed, for instance, it must be done in Parliament, he said.

On yesterday's statement by Anwar's wife, Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, that her newly formed Parti Keadilan Nasional (Keadilan) did not encourage its members to riot, Abdullah said some of the street protesters had carried Keadilan flags.

In his speech, Abdullah described those involved in spreading rumours on the health of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as ill-bred.

He said they created the rumours to discredit the prime minister.

"This is bad and should not have been done by anyone. Such actions are the work of ill-breds," he said.

Abdullah said Dr Mahathir's health had improved further and he drove around Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

The deputy prime minister said Malaysians should be grateful that they had leaders who were capable of bringing success to the country in various fields.

-- BERNAMA

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