

15 AUG 1999

Ibrahim-Treason

IBRAHIM CALLS FOR INTRODUCTION OF TREASON ACT

SHAH ALAM, Aug 15 (Bernama) -- Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Ibrahim Ali today called for the introduction of a Treason Act with the death sentence for those convicted under it.

Ibrahim, a member of the Umno Supreme Council, said he would bring up the proposal at the next council meeting.

"Government documents are being kept or hoarded abroad now and I'm certain it will happen again in future if not checked," he told a press conference here.

He said Malaysians degrading the nation abroad in public talks and statements should also be considered as committing treason.

Those convicted should be given the death sentence because treason was more dangerous than even drug trafficking, he said.

Ibrahim was commenting on a statement by Parti Keadilan Nasional Youth chief Mohamad Ezam Mohamed Nor that former deputy premier Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim was keeping government documents overseas to expose malpractices.

He said the government should study Ezam's disclosure carefully and not act in haste lest it be accused of being unfair.

The deputy minister challenged Ezam to prove his allegation of malpractices in the country which, according to the Keadilan Youth chief, could be supported by the documents kept abroad.

Meanwhile, Ibrahim said the ITM Graduates Grand Gathering to be attended by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Aug 26 had received a very encouraging response.

About 15,000 former Institut Teknolgi Mara students had expressed their interest in participating at the gathering to be held at the Malawati Indoor Stadium here.

Ibrahim, who is the event's organising chairman, said it was open to all former ITM students including opposition party members.

Details may be obtained by calling 03-558 1243/03 or 03-552 9077/8/9 (extension 1416/7).

-- BERNAMA

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