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Umno-Singapore

LEARN TO APPRECIATE MALAYSIA'S SACRIFICES, SINGAPORE TOLD

KOTA BAHARU, Jan 22 (Bernama) -- Singapore should not take advantage of Malaysia's accommodating stance to start disputes to the extent of damaging Asean spirit, said Umno International Burueau secretary Mustapha Yaakub today.

He said Malaysia has been very accommodating towards Singapore including over the issues of water supply and intrusion of its air space by Singapore fighter jets in the spirit of good neighbourliness.

"Singapore has never shown its appreciation to all this. All it knows is starting trouble which is clearly against the Asean spirit," he said when commenting on the republic's Foreign Minister S. Jayakumar's statement over the issue of Malaysia's Customs, Immigration and Quarantine (CIQ) facilities located at the Tanjung Pagar rail station in Singapore.

Mustapha said the question of recognising Singapore's sovereignty did not arise as this was reflected all along by Malaysia's accommodating stance.

"If Malaysia were to raise one by one its sacrifices to Singapore, there would be many. Is the CIQ issue that big that they are accusing us of not respecting Singapore's sovereignty?" he said.

He said Singapore should be sincere in establishing ties with its neighbour after the tension last year with Malaysia.

In this connection, he said the bureau wanted the government to be firm and insisted in resolving all outstanding issues with Singapore as a package.

Mustapha said Malaysia must be strict in resolving all issues raised by Singapore with national interest as primary concern than Singapore's feeling.

"Singapore must respect the agreement reached by both Prime Ministers Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Goh Chok Tong to resolve these issues as a package," he said.

--BERNAMA

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