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Mahathir-Opposition

NO COUNTRY GIVES FREEDOM TO OPPOSITION PARTIES LIKE M'SIA

JOHOR BAHRU, Nov 24 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said no country in the world gives freedom to the opposition as is being done in this country.

"They (the opposition) lie all the time...we can take court action against them but we don't do anything to them although they have lied," said the Prime Minister.

We give freedom to the opposition in this country, he said in his speech at a gathering of the leader with the people at Sekolah Rendah Jenis Kebangsaan Cina Pu Sze, Skudai here today.

Dr Mahathir said the opposition would try over the next two or three days to spread more lies to scare the people so that they would not support the Barisan Nasional (BN) in the general election on Nov 29.

"I am told that they will distribute the wrong version of the 'Surah Yassin' and they will say it is the work of Umno so that the people will hate Umno," he said.

The Prime Minister said they would come up with many other ways to instil hatred among the people against Umno and BN.

"They will do this...believe me that over the next four or five days before we cast the ballot, they will produce various materials to scare the people particularly the Malays," he said.

Dr Mahathir said he did not believe the people of Johor would be duped by these tactics.

"But unfortunately, there are people in some states who are so fanatical about PAS and obsessed with PAS leaders and believe whatever lie told by the PAS leaders.

"We do not believe, unfortunately their followers will believe. That's how fanatical the PAS followers are. They lie today and we can obtain proof that whatever they say are lies but tomorrow they will lie again," he said.

The Prime Minister cited an example that they spread lies that he could not perform the Haj recently as though he was sick and later had passed away at midnight.

"When people knew I did not die then they lied again, (they) don't stop lying. What party (is this), party that lies," said Dr Mahathir, which was greeted by shouts of "correct" from the crowd of about 5,000 people who were present.

That's why, he said, it was very easy for PAS to befriend other expert liars.

-- BERNAMA

MKO AO