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Mahathir-Mirzan

NOT TRUE THAT MIRZAN OWNS 95 COMPANIES, SAYS DR MAHATHIR

PASIR MAS, Nov 26 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has denied a report in the PAS-owned Harakah alleging that his son Mirzan owns 95 companies.

"Yes...there are 95 companies in the Registrar of Companies...but in most of these companies my son is a director without salary," the Prime Minister said.

Speaking when laying the foundation stone for Kelantan's third bridge between Tendong and Wakaf Che Yeh today, he said the Nov 15 issue of Harakah had listed out 95 companies allegedly owned by Mirzan.

He said as his son was trained in management, being a graduate of University of Pennsylvania in the United States, he was frequently asked to be a director without pay.

"Only that sometimes there are meeting allowances and the likes...he does not have even one sen of share in these companies," he said, stressing that the companies listed by Harakah did not belong to Mirzan but other parties like Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) and Khazanah Holdings.

Dr Mahathir said PAS talked as if Mirzan owned the 95 companies, and those who did not know might believe this since it was stated that the companies named were valid until 1998.

"If Mirzan were to receive (RM) 10,000 as monthly allowance from each company, that means his monthly income from allowances alone would be RM950,000...almost one million a month.

"This is a lie. He (Mirzan) only gives his services to help companies owned by the government, PNB and others. It would be different if Mirzan became an executive director with a salary," he said.

From the list, he said, Mirzan was only named as director in three companies, Dataprep Holdings Berhad, Solsis (M) Sdn Bhd and Solsisnet Sdn Bhd.

Dr Mahathir said PAS had resorted to a good way of deceiving the people by displaying the list.

"(This is) To discredit me again so that people will hate me and vote PAS," he said, telling the thousands present that Harakah columnist Subky Latif is the PAS candidate challenging him in Kubang Pasu.

Saying his family has been targeted by PAS, Dr Mahathir said PAS had the audacity to spread the allegations among people who did not know the intricacies of business.

The Prime Minister also denied that he had written a letter to First Finance Minister Tun Daim Zainuddin asking him to pressure former Bank Negara assistant governor Datuk Abdul Murad Khalid to expose the wrongdoings of former deputy prime minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

"The (so-called) letter is with me; the letterhead is not right, the date is also not in order, the signature is also wrong," he said.

-- Bernama

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