

# Don't take part in protest march: PM

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**KUALA LUMPUR**, Sun: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today appealed to the people to shun an opposition party's plan for a protest march in the city.

He said he understands that **Parti Keadilan Nasional** intends to hold a demonstration and he warned that this could spark a riot.

"They want to hold a demonstration on April 15 to remember certain events... they are ready even to strike **policemen**, carry weapons and sticks.

"I can see that it is moving towards an unhealthy trend of using force and violating laws," he told reporters after taking a ride on a **British-made** hovercraft at Seri **Kembangan** near here.

## 'Demonstrators plan to riot, attack police on Saturday'

April 15 marks the first anniversary of the jailing of former deputy prime minister Datuk Seri **Anwar Ibrahim** on corruption charges.

If this goes on, the Prime Minister said, Malaysia will one day become like some countries where the people will riot whenever a group is not satisfied with something.

"This will destroy our country. We appeal to the people not to behave like this and not to do anything of this kind.

"It can happen in other countries but here, we are open. We have Parliament, we have **MPs** from opposition parties, unlike in some other

countries where opposition parties do not have representatives at all.

"Here, our opposition **MPs** are very **fierce** in Parliament. What else do you want?" Mahathir said.

On extension of the sitting of Parliament by six days, the Prime Minister said this is because there is a statutory requirement of three days to pass the Money Bill.

The present session, which was opened by the Yang **di-Pertuan Agong** on Feb 14, was supposed to end on April 13.

On his ride on the British Royal Marines **Griffon 2000TDX(M)** hovercraft, the prime minister described it as

a very good experience and a memorable one.

"It is quite comfortable, except for the part when it turns around," he said.

The hovercraft was brought in for demonstration by Dawn Aqua Sdn. Bhd, a local company with a majority bumiputra shareholding.

The company is backed by **Griffon Hovercraft Ltd of Britain**.

Dawn Aqua was set up last year with the sole objective of bringing hovercraft technology to Malaysia and setting up a manufacturing base here to build the crafts for local use and export.

Dawn Aqua and Griffon have agreed on a total transfer of technology package where the former has an exclusive licence agreement to build the full range of **Griffon** Hovercraft in Malaysia.