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Abdullah-Rumours

DON'T LISTEN TO RUMOURS, SAYS ABDULLAH

KOTA KINABALU, Jan 27 Jan (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi today urged the people not to listen to rumours and instead to get information from official sources.

He said the rumours were spread by parties with ulterior motive.

The people must know how to differentiate between truth and falsehood, he said.

"If there is no official statement, it means that it is not true. That's the formula to know whether something is true or not," he said.

Asked to comment on rumours about the condition of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad who is on vacation overseas, he said the people should not listen to rumours.

"Why should the people panic? If anything happens, they will surely know because they need to be told," he said.

Last night, when asked to comment on rumours spread by certain parties, including that Dr Mahathir had fallen off a horse, Abdullah said the rumours were spread by malicious people who did not love the country.

He said today: "We don't know their motive but whatever it is, it's not good.

"If there is any truth, it is best for us to inform in detail so that the people will know. But sometimes the people panic easily, they hear rumours and they jump," he said.

On action to be taken against rumour-mongers, Abdullah said: "I don't know what to do now, there are so many of these naughty rumour-mongers. What's important is that the people must remember that they will be told if there is anything. We have nothing to hide."

-- BERNAMA

JS JK