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Gerakan to dispel rumours about Sauk

ALOR STAR, Fri. - Gerakan will use the party's State delegates conferences to explain the arms heist in Grik and subsequent events in Sauk to its members.

Party deputy president Datuk Kerk Choo Ting said Gerakan leaders had begun efforts to dispel rumours and misconceptions about the incident earlier this month, in which members of the Al-Ma'unah movement stole a cache of weapons and ammunition from two army camps in Grik, held four hostages in their hideout in Bukit Jenalik, Sauk, and later killed two of them.

Kerk said Gerakan would also use the opportunity to talk to members about the setting up of Vision Schools to enhance ties among Malaysians of different races.

The Federal Territory, Kelantan, Perak and Kedah Gerakan have held their State delegates conferences with explanations on the incident given.

Kerk said all other States were expected to hold their conferences by early August.

He added that further explanations would be given to Gerakan members once the White Paper on the events in Grik and Sauk was finalised.

Kerk was asked how Gerakan planned to explain the events to its members following Tuesday's statement by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Dr Mahathir who is Barisan Nasional chairman, said the component parties would go to the people to explain that the killing of a policeman and a soldier in Sauk by Al-Ma'unah members was not a case of hatred against the non-Muslims.

Earlier, he opened the Kedah Gerakan delegates conference. Also present were party vice-presidents Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon, Datuk Dr S. Vijayarajam, Datuk Dr Kang Chin Seng, Youth chief Teng Chang Yeow and its secretary-general Chia Kwang Chye.

In his speech, he urged members to recognise the intrinsic values of the party which would guide them in facing changes and challenges.

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