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Mahathir-PAS

GOVERNMENT HOPES PAS WILL NOT WHITEWASH AL-MA'UNAH ACTIONS

PUTRAJAYA, July 10 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad hoped PAS and other groups would not try to whitewash "for whatever reason" the cruel actions and deviationism perpetrated by the Al-Ma'unah group.

The Prime Minister said the whole country deplored the actions of the group in torturing and murdering two members of the security forces.

"Still, the government believes there will be attempts by certain groups, especially PAS, to try to whitewash the cruel actions of the group on the excuse that they were trying to establish an Islamic state," he told a press conference after chairing an Umno Supreme Council meeting at his residence here today.

Dr Mahathir said the government anticipated PAS would try to whitewash the group's actions like what it (PAS) had done over the killing of four policemen in the Memali incident previously.

He said there are among leaders of the group who are PAS members and as such the party is expected to try to defend the Al-Ma'unah group.

Dr Mahathir said there would be calls to whitewash what the Al-Ma'unah group had done by reason that the group was disappointed the government did not implement Islamic law such as Hudud and that the sale of liquor was allowed in Malaysia.

He said such views would be raised by groups sympathetic to the Al-Ma'unah group as they have the same purported aim of fighting for an Islamic state.

"They might not have agreed with the way the Al-Ma'unah group had acted but they would try to convince people as to why the Al-Ma'unah group took such action," he said.

Dr Mahathir said the government would explain to the people to ensure that no one would sympathise with the group of criminals.

-- BERNAMA
AKT MAI THG