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Mahathir-Al-Maunah

AL-MAUNAH GROUP INTENDS TO TOPPLE GOVT

PUTRAJAYA, July 10 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the Al-Mau'nah group whose members conducted the arms heist at the army camps in Gerik recently intended to topple the existing government in their own way.

Describing the group as terrorist the prime minister said: "These terrorists are definitely involved in their own political way. They want to change the government, to topple the existing government."

Speaking to reporters after chairing the Umno supreme council meeting at the Seri Perdana Complex, here, he said the group had in fact asked for all the cabinet members to step down.

"They had issued a statement calling for the prime minister and his cronies, namely the cabinet members, to resign.

"That is their struggle and it's contained in their first communication through the radio," he said without elaborating.

Dr Mahathir also said that the government might prepare a white paper on the incident which ended last Thursday with the surrender of the 27 gang members, including their leader, Amin Mohamad Razali, to the security forces which had thrown a tight cordon around their hideout in Bukit Jenalek, Sauk, Perak, for four days.

In the incident, two security forces personnel, commando Mathew a/k Medan and special branch detective R. Sagadevan, who were taken hostage, were tortured and killed and a member of the gang was also killed.

Dr Mahathir said the supreme council also decided to explain the incident to the people so that no one would sympathise with the terrorists.

Umno would also explain its struggle to develop the Muslims in the country, he added.

-- BERNAMA

MAM AKT JK