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`Mohd Amin suffered from self-delusion'

PUTRAJAYA, Mon. - Mohd Amin Mohamed Razali, the leader of the Al-Ma'unah group, was mistaken in his belief that Malaysians would support him in his attempt to topple the Government.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today Mohd Amin staged the arms heist in Grik, Perak, and subsequent stand-off with the security forces thinking he was the catalyst to disorder that would eventually cause the Government to fall.

"This was his hope, but it did not materialise as Malaysians were not interested," Dr Mahathir told reporters at the Prime Minister's Department after a dialogue with women organisations.

"The reason he was that brave was because he was mistaken in his assumption that many Malaysians were ready to rise, oppose and topple the Government.

"In his action, he saw himself as a catalyst to which would cause the Government to fall," he said.

Dr Mahathir was asked on a statement by Mohd Amin's guru in Indonesia, Abbas Bakir, that he (Mohd Amin) had lied by saying that he (Mohd Amin) was invincible. (See report on Page 4).

Utusan Malaysia reported today that Abbas had labelled Amin a traitor for tarnishing the group's reputation besides indulging in black magic and deviationist teachings.

Dr Mahathir said he was told that Mohd Amin had rejected his guru because the Al-Ma'unah group in Indonesia had good intentions.

"But Mohd Amin clearly had other intentions. He did not follow the true teachings of the Al-Ma'unah group in Indonesia.

"He carried out his own teachings centred on a personality cult based on him being an extraordinary human and invincible and could do anything ... even defeat many enemies."

Dr Mahathir said that in the tape taken from the Al-Ma'unah office (in Klang), it was shown how people who wanted to attack Mohd Amin could not reach him.

"This had raised a false belief about him. He believed that his followers would be amazed with his ability and that he was invincible.

On Women's Day, Dr Mahathir said that it would be commemorated Aug 25.

On the dialogue, he said the women had made various suggestions, including the setting up of a women's fund, special treatment for women in the Budget and in the five-year Malaysia plans, the setting up an academic research centre on women, implementation of syariah laws and on injustices done to women.

Asked on the Barisan Nasional's supreme council meeting tomorrow, Dr Mahathir, who is also BN chairman, said the coalition would resolve certain matters, including applications from certain organisations to join BN.

They would also discuss problems faced by the BN in this era, parties' problems with the Government and differences in stands taken by BN coalition members that could weaken it, he added.

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