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Prime Minister expresses regret over the attempted coup in Fiji

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today regretted the attempted coup in Fiji, saying it was bound to have happened as there was great economic disparity among the people.

"We are very sorry these things happen, although we must say that we expected something like this to happen," the Prime Minister told reporters after opening electronics company MEC's dealers convention here.

He said such episodes would continue to take place unless there was a strong programme involving distribution of the island's economic wealth among indigenous Fijians.

"It is much more difficult in Fiji because the disparity is very great and unless there is a very strong programme for the bumiputeras of Fiji, so that they will feel that they are sharing the wealth of the country, this thing will happen over and over again," Dr Mahathir added.

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