

Stop meddling, warns PM

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JEMPOL: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday warned foreigners not to meddle in the internal affairs of the country.

He said Malaysia was capable of handling its own affairs without their intervention.

"We don't want foreigners to meddle in our internal affairs. We are perfectly capable of solving whatever problems that affect our country," he told reporters after chairing a closed-door meeting with members of the Jempol and Jelevu Umno divisions.

Dr Mahathir was commenting on a newspaper report on a briefing held by Parti Keadilan Nasional for US Embassy officials on Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

The newspaper had reported that diplomats from France, Indonesia, Canada, Australia and New Zealand also attended the "secret briefing" at a hotel in Petaling Jaya.

The report also claimed that opposition party leaders were at the briefing.

This, however, was refuted by PAS, DAP and PRM.

Dr Mahathir expressed disappointment over the involvement of foreign ambassadors at the meeting.

"It is not proper for them to be involved in such a meeting," he said, adding that it was wrong for locals to seek foreign help.

In Kuala Lumpur, DAP chairman Lim Kit Siang denied attending such a briefing

on Anwar's health, adding that the newspaper report contained false information.

"We are seriously considering lodging a police report against them for the offence of reporting false news," he said.

He said the report carried serious insinuations that the

opposition leaders were disloyal in consorting with foreign powers to work against the national interests of Malaysia.

PRM president Dr Syed Husin Ali said he and other opposition leaders did not attend any briefing for foreign envoys.

"We were attending the opposition parties' leadership meeting in another room in the same building," he said.

Dr Syed Husin said as they came out for tea, they met some Keadilan leaders.

PAS president Datuk Fadzil Noor also denied that he attended the briefing, adding

that he and the other opposition party leaders were there for the meeting.

"I did not know about the briefing and I did not attend it," he added.

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