

# No drama about militant groups

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White Paper may be problematic if issue goes to court, says PM

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By S.Gayathri

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**KUALA LUMPUR, Sun:** The government wants to release a White Paper on the activities of militant movements but thinks it will be accused of trying to influence the court.

Expressing this concern, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the gov-

ernment needs to do so but is faced with problems, since the matter will be taken to court.

"If we give detailed information pertaining to this case, it can be perceived as an attempt to influence the court."

On the other hand, Mahathir said, the people are confused because the Opposition is saying this is a *sandiwara* (a play).

"To them, killing people

is *sandiwara*, they take it very lightly to use the term *sandiwara*.

"This shows that they are bankrupt of ideas to dispute allegations by the government ... their answer is *sandiwara*, *sandiwara*, *sandiwara*."

"This goes to show how stupid they are as they can't even argue their way out," he told reporters after opening the fourth Tamil Internet 2001 confer-

ence and exhibition here.

Yesterday, Mahathir said the government will gather all the necessary facts related to the Internal Security Act arrest of several leaders of the Malaysian Mujahidin Movement before coming out in the open.

He said the government has no choice but to come out with an explanation on the issue, even though it might be prejudicial.