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Be consistent, PM tells Pas president

PUTRAJAYA, Sat. - Pas president Datuk Fadzil Noor should have a proper stand and not display inconsistency in expressing support for Malaysian Human Rights Commission chairman Tan Sri Musa Hitam.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said it was improper for Fadzil to back Musa only when the circumstances favoured his party as evident in his questioning of Musa's stand when the latter urged Malaysians to have faith in the Government's manner in dealing with terrorism.

"Previously, he had been very supportive of Musa whose statements favoured the opposition party. We have to be consistent in our stance," the Prime Minister said after opening the Prime Minister's Department's family day at Taman Wetland today.

Fadzil has reportedly argued that Musa has yet to divorce himself from his past positions as a Deputy Prime Minister and Umno deputy president.

Dr Mahathir said Fadzil should instead emulate Musa who based his judgement on the well-being of the country.

"As a Malaysian citizen, everyone including Fadzil, has an obligation to support the Government. Such need is even more pressing now that we are in an alarming situation.

"This is more important than to harp on the Islamic State concept.

Asked whether it was wrong for Suhakam to have a different stand from the Government, Dr Mahathir added:

"Not everything we do is wrong. If what we do is right, then we merit support. But don't support us if we are in the wrong."

On Wednesday, Musa explained that he was speaking as a former Deputy Prime Minister when he recommended that democracy and human rights take a back seat in the aftermath of the Sept 11 attacks on the US.

Stressing that he was not speaking as Suhakam chairman when he made the recommendation, Musa said he welcomed comments.

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