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Aseh-Sun

MINISTRY STILL INVESTIGATING THE SUN OVER ASSASSINATION PLOT STORY

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 29 (Bernama) -- The Home Ministry is still investigating The Sun over its front page story on a plot to kill Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy, Datuk Seri Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi, said its Secretary General Datuk Seri Aseh Che Mat today.

He said the ministry would only decide on the next course of action to be taken against the newspaper once the investigation was completed.

"My advice to journalists is to write factually and objectively...if you create something out of nothing, then it would be difficult," he told reporters after a Hari Raya gathering at Rumah Pengasih here.

He said foreign journalists covering events in the country should also heed the advice.

To a question, he said the ministry did not ask the newspaper to make an apology to Dr Mahathir and Abdullah.

Aseh also said that the ministry did not issue a showcause letter to The Sun, only a letter seeking an explanation from the newspaper over the news report which was published on Sept 25.

Following the denial by the police and the two leaders, the newspaper Editor-in-Chief H'ng Hung Yong and Editor Andy Ng tendered their resignations.

In addition, the Chief News Editor Robert Ho and Managing Editor Chong Cheng Hai were suspended.

The reporter R Manirajan who wrote the story and the photographer Anita Md Nasir were also suspended by The Sun pending further investigations.

-- BERNAMA

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