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PM: Keadilan has no interest in country's security, growth

Patrick Sennyah; Jaswinder Kaur

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - Parti Keadilan Nasional has no interest in the country's security and economic growth but is only keen on fighting to free former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said while the Government was trying its best to maintain peace and stability, it (Keadilan) was willing to stage demonstrations and resort to violence in an attempt to overthrow the Government.

"Keadilan is only interested in one thing, that is to free Anwar.

"To them, the country is not important at all. The economy is not important, social security is not important," he said after launching the National Landscape Day at Dataran Putra in Putrajaya today.

Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Datuk Jamil Johari, said in Kota Kinabalu that police would conduct an investigation into reports that Keadilan was planning to carry out street demonstrations daily.

He said a police report would be lodged to enable investigations to be carried out.

Dr Mahathir and Jamil were commenting on a statement yesterday by Keadilan Youth chief Mohd Ezam Mohd Nor that Keadilan was planning big street demonstrations with the aim of overthrowing the Government.

Ezam had said that Keadilan was only waiting for the right time to hold the demonstrations, which would be on a daily basis.

Dr Mahathir said Keadilan had always professed to uphold the rule of law, democracy and social justice but, in reality, was willing to act on the contrary.

"They (Keadilan) have seen the chaotic happenings in neighbouring countries where there are killings between Muslims and Christians, and Dayaks and Madurese.

"Are they then disappointed that there are no such killings in Malaysia?" he said.

He said it appeared that Keadilan did not have any feelings of patriotism and was instead only happy to get praises from the foreign media for staging such demonstrations.

He said Malaysia practised democracy where people were given the opportunity to express support for any party and that Keadilan knew that if street demonstrations were used to topple the Government, the country's stability would be greatly affected.

On what action the Government planned to take against those involved, Dr Mahathir said "we will wait and see to what extent they will go".

"Police view seriously actions that may threaten security and peace in the country," Jamil said upon arrival at the Kota Kinabalu International Airport, today.

He advised groups which planned to demonstrate to desist and also warned the public against participating in such illegal gatherings.

"Police will not hesitate to act against anyone breaking the law."

Jamil added that Internet sites containing planned schedules of street demonstrations were being monitored closely.

Ezam was quoted by Mingguan Malaysia as saying that the party would carry out street demonstrations daily.

"These street demonstrations will only stop when the Government is overthrown," Ezam was quoted as saying.

Responding to Umno Youth chief Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein's

statement that he had proof of Keadilan's "planned and calculated move to organise demonstrations by the week", Ezam said "large-scale street protests will be held daily to overthrow the Government".

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