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Abdullah-Plot

POLICE START PROBE ON MURDER PLOT REPORT

KUANTAN, Dec 26 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said police have started investigating a newspaper report that there was an alleged plot to assassinate him and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"As was said by the Deputy IGP (Tan Sri Jamil Johari), there is no information (on the alleged plot).

"But since a local newspaper has carried the report, police considered it necessary to investigate and they have started investigations," he told reporters after attending a briefing on floods in Pahang here today.

Abdullah, who is Home Minister, said if the report was true the newspaper should have alerted police to the plot so that preventive action could be taken.

"I think anyone with such information...should first inform the police so that early action can be taken," he said.

He said this when asked to comment on the front-page report in The Sun yesterday which quoted sources as saying that there was a plot by local politicians to assassinate the country's top two leaders.

"If you just keep the information and wait for a certain time to publish the report, by then the plot could have been carried out if it was true," he said.

Abdullah said such reports would not bring any good as they could create unease among the people and cause other parties to make all sorts of assumptions.

"This should be understood by the parties concerned," he said.

-- BERNAMA

MS YBY