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DAP seeks early briefing on al-Qaeda from Norian

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - DAP national chairman Lim Kit Siang has called on the Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Norian Mai to fix an early date for an urgent briefing to the DAP party leaders and members of Parliament on the Al-Qaeda network and activities in Malaysia.

Lim said this was crucial after Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's open admission that Osama bin Laden's Al-Qaeda terrorist network has recruited about 50 Malaysians for its operations in an interview with a Japanese magazine Chuokoron published yesterday.

"I describe this revelation as a shocker as in the past four months since the Sept 11 terrorist attacks, both the government and the police had been most strenuous and categorical to deny Osama had any network, link or activities in Malaysia," Lim said in a statement.

Lim said with the revelation, it was even more urgent and imperative that Norian brief DAP leaders and MPs on the Al-Qaeda network.

Malaysia, he said, must develop its own national strategy to combat and immunise the country from all forms of terrorism, whether national or international based on a national consensus transcending party politics and religions securing the support of all Malaysians.

"The national strategy and consensus against terrorism must comprise at least two important elements, unequivocal and unconditional condemnation of all forms of terrorism in Malaysia by all political parties.

"There must be a solemn undertaking by all political parties, and the government to never exploit or politicise the issue for petty and narrow sectional ends."

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