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NORMAL FOR PAS TO ACCUSE BN OF EMPLOYING DIRTY TACTICS- PM

JOHOR BAHRU, Jan 21 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the PAS move to accuse the Barisan Nasional (BN) of using gangsters and employing dirty tactics in the Indera Kayangan state by-election is a reflection of its own such conduct at any by-election in the country.

"Yes in Lunas that's what they did. We did not do anything...there were no gangsters...they are smart in accusing others when earlier they themselves did that...that is the work of PAS," the Prime Minister told reporters here.

Dr Mahathir, who is the BN Chairman, said this when asked to comment on the PAS claim that the BN resorted to gangsterism and dirty tactics during the Indera Kayangan by-election on Saturday.

Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat was reported to have said that there were indications that the government had restricted open ceramahs while PAS President Datuk Fadzil Nor claimed that voters chose the BN candidate as they were afraid of the BN machinery.

In Saturday's by-election, the BN candidate, Ooi Ah Lan, polled 4,279 votes to defeat Keadilan's Khoo Yang Chong who received 1,687 votes.

Dr Mahathir said PAS was fond of exploiting issues relating to Islam apart from slandering leaders and certain individuals.

-- BERNAMA
RAM NMO AAM