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Pas-Terrorism

PAS OBJECTS TO SETTING UP OF ANTI-TERRORISM TRAINING CENTRE

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 30 (Bernama) -- Pas intends to hand in a memorandum of protest to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad regarding the government's agreement to set up an anti-terrorism training centre here.

Pas Central Committee member Mohamad Sabu said the intention to allow the setting up of such a centre required thorough and in-depth study for the sake of the country's interest in the future.

"We are worried that the approach will invite danger and not bring any good to us," he told a media conference at the Parliament lobby, here today.

Mohamad, who is also Kuala Kedah member of parliament, said the government's particular decision showed as though Malaysia and Asean were incapable of combatting terrorism.

The setting up of the centre would also invite the entry of foreign intelligence agents into the country, he said.

Last Sunday, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi met with United States President George W. Bush in Los Cabos, Mexico, on the sidelines of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation meeting, and agreed that an anti-terrorism training centre would be set up in Kuala Lumpur.

Last Monday, Mohamad presented a motion to postpone the assembly under Standing Order 18(1) to discuss the issue of the setting up of a regional anti-terrorism training centre here early next year.

However, Dewan Rakyat Yang Speaker Tun Dr Mohamed Zahir Ismail today rejected the motion, saying that the Deputy Prime Minister had nodded in agreement only in principle.

"The conditions and terms pertaining to the agreement have not been agreed upon. If the terms are not agreed upon, of course the Centre will not be set up," said Dr Mohamed Zahir in an letter of rejection to Mohamad.

-- BERNAMA

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