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Mahathir-Undertaking

PAS REGARDS EVERY ACTION OF THE GOVT AS POLITICALLY MOTIVATED, SAYS PM

MELAKA, Jan 25 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that PAS regards every action of the Barisan Nasional (BN) government as being politically motivated.

"For PAS, everything is politics, when it prays, it's politics, when it fasts, it's also politics...it prays in the middle of the field to show its people.

"That's politics, that's not real prayer because the intention is wrong, it's not valid. When we pray we must have the right intention, for it (PAS), it's all politics," the prime minister told a media conference after launching the 20th World Customs Day celebration at the Customs Academy in Bukit Baru, here.

He was asked to comment on the Terengganu PAS government's statement that the requirement by the federal government for civil servants to sign an undertaking on good behaviour is politically motivated.

Terengganu Economic, Petroleum, Industrial and Human Resources Committee chairman Datuk Mustafa Ali was quoted in the press yesterday as saying that the state government would not adopt the move as the civil servants were already governed by the General Orders.

Dr Mahathir said the government was happy that all federal government servants supported the move.

"No one has objected to signing the undertaking. Even the workers unions supported and signed the undertaking from the beginning.

"There is no ulterior motive behind the undertaking. By signing it government officers and staff will not be involved in undesirable acts," he said.

On a proposal by Indonesian Vice-president Indonesia Hamzah Haz to meet him to discuss the issue of workers from the republic, he said many Indonesian workers came here illegally.

"We don't need any more (Indonesian workers), we have enough workers, in fact more than enough, who come here through encroachment. Yesterday more than 99 people came here looking for work," he said.

On the possibility of the government carrying out another exercise to legalise illegal immigrants, Dr Mahathir said the previous one had not solved the problem.

He said the government would conduct a large-scale operation to combat the entry of illegal immigrants and those without work permits would be deported in stages.

-- BERNAMA

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