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S'pore-Malays

PERHAKAM SUPPORTS DR MAHATHIR'S STATEMENT

SINGAPORE, Oct 7 (Bernama) -- The Singapore Malay Human Rights Assembly (Perhakam) today urged Malays in Malaysia to take seriously Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's advice not to fight among themselves to avoid ending up as a minority group, like Malays in Singapore.

"What is most worrying is that, if we were to look at the number of Malays and non-Malays in Malaysia, the difference is not that much. Therefore, if Malays in Malaysia are constantly at loggerheads with one another, then there is a possibility that they may end up like Malays in Singapore," a Perhakam official, Mohamed Mansor Abdul Rahman, said in a statement, here.

He also referred to a piece written by the late Tun Abdul Razak in an Umno book on the separation of Singapore from Malaysia, which said that the Malays only realised that they had lost their country after the fact.

"There is truth to Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir's statement which questioned how many generals and secretaries in (government) departments in Singapore are actually Malays," Mohamed Mansor said.

"Up till now, we do not see any Malays holding secretarial posts in any of the government departments in Singapore although they (Malays) have attained much achievements in higher learning."

For example, in the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF), there is only one Malay pilot and that is for the cargo aircraft. In the SAF, there are certain areas whereby the Malays are restricted from entry, he said.

According to Dr Mahathir, Malays in Malaysia, had at one time, almost experienced a similar fate as Singapore Malays who ended up as a minority group but were saved by the the economic turmoil in the 1930s when immigrants from China and India were forced to return their own countries.

-- BERNAMA

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