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Mahathir-Singapore

M'SIA MUST BE CAREFUL IN HANDLING NATIONAL AFFAIRS, SAYS MAHATHIR

BANGI, April 14 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Malaysia must be careful and wise in handling its affairs without being influenced by the feeling of anger towards any party.

Referring to the land reclamation work by Singapore near the Straits of Johor, The Prime Minister said: "We must be careful in handling a problem such as this because we don't want to be at war with Singapore,"

He said this during a question and answer session when closing a women's course organised by Puteri Umno here today.

Dr Mahathir said Singapore was carrying out land reclamation work in the waters owned by the republic.

"The only problem for us is that the land reclamation may cause the deepest seabed to change. This matter requires careful study," he said.

Dr Mahathir said: "If we act hastily, start a war between Singapore and us, the world may perceive us to be belligerent.

"That's why, when handling national affairs, we have to be extremely careful and wise and not be influenced by the feeling of anger towards any party when we do anything."

Earlier, Dr Mahathir was reported to have said that Malaysia had reasons to lodge a protest that land reclamation activities by Singapore in the Straits of Johor could affect the environment, local fishermen as well as the boundary.

-- BERNAMA

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