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Mahathir-Root

STILL NO ATTEMPT TO FIND THE ROOTS OF TERRORISM; SAYS PRIME MINISTER

PUTRAJAYA, Nov 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said that until today there has been no attempt to find the reasons which led to terrorism.

He said many instead preferred to deal with the problem through military means or by increasing the security system rather than finding out the roots of terrorism.

"In fighting against terrorism, it is important to know why are they doing all these things (terrorising), why are they are willing to committ suicide. If you know why, then you can tackle the problem," he said.

Dr Mahathir said this in a question-and-answer session with students pf Tokyo Metropolitan Kokusai High School at his official residence, Seri Perdana, here.

He added that to terrorise one city such as Washington DC, it only needed one man and as such, it was difficult to fight terrorists through military means or by upgrading the security system.

The 224 Japanese youngsters, all aged 17, who arrived in Malaysia last Monday for a five-day visit, called on Dr Mahathir and his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali today.

For the students and their principal, Yoshio Kawashima, it was a dream come to meet the prime minister due to his popularity in Japan.

Kawashima said it was important for them to meet Dr Mahathir as they wanted to learn a lot of things from him.

He said the school had chosen Malaysia for their overseas trip due to its multiracial and multicultural background.

During their stay here, the students visited the Yayasan Pelajaran Mara College in Bangi, Sunway College and Bandar Utama College.

-- BERNAMA
NN AZH JK