

Mahathir
STAR 11 JUN 2003

We want to see quick release of Suu Kyi

PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia wants to see the release of Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi immediately.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Kuala Lumpur, however, would not indulge in any pressure for her release because "we don't indulge in that kind of thing."

Dr Mahathir was asked to comment on United Nations special envoy Tan Sri Razali Ismail's meeting with Suu Kyi who has been detained since May 30 after violence erupted as she was touring a provincial town in Myanmar.

The United States, Britain and the European Union have said they were considering trade and investment sanctions because of Suu Kyi's treatment.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar said the development in Myanmar would also be discussed at the Asean Ministerial Meeting starting on Monday, together with the developments in Aceh.

However, he said the two issues would be discussed along the lines of how they would affect the stability and economy of the region without touching on the internal matters of the countries involved.

On Myanmar, Syed Hamid said Malaysia was happy with its willingness to initiate reconciliation among the feuding factions in the country.