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Mahathir-PKPM

UMNO BELIEVES SOME OF ITS MEMBERS ARE INVOLVED IN PKPM

KUALA LUMPUR, July 31 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Umno believed that some of its members were involved in the Federal Special Forces of Malaysia (PKPM) but their number was small.

The Umno President and Prime Minister said members of others political parties were also believed to be involved in the organisation.

"We believe that Umno members were also involved but not many. So were members of other political parties," he told reporters after chairing the Umno Supreme Council meeting at the party's headquarters here today.

Dr Mahathir said Umno Deputy President and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who is also Home Minister, had briefed the meeting on the PKPM.

Dr Mahathir said the Umno members like others were also taken in by promises given.

"And they were also taken in by offers of promotions...can hold that post, this post, can wear medal...so, it's rather exciting," he said.

Asked on action to be taken against such Umno members, Dr Mahathir said the party wanted to find out more from those involved.

"We have not decided on action to be taken. If they knew its intention and still joined it, it requires different kind of action," he said.

Asked on call by PAS for the government to issue a White Paper on PKPM, Dr Mahathir said that at the moment no decision had been made.

"At this moment we have not made any decision because we don't know what this organisation is all about...whether it is a militant or not.

"As far as we know there is no proof that they are involved with other militant groups," he said.

-- BERNAMA

RV SR AHH ABG