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Dr M: No basis yet for white paper on FSFM

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - The Government has found no basis yet, to issue a white paper on the illegal Federal Special Forces of Malaysia (FSFM), Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

He said the authorities had yet to ascertain whether or not FSFM was a militant group.

"At this moment, we have not decided on the action to be taken as we do not know yet whether it is a militant group.

"As far as we know, there is no evidence that they have links with other militant groups."

Dr Mahathir was asked on a proposal by Opposition leader Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang today for the Government to issue a white paper on the FSFM.

Hadi, who is Pas acting president, had said that a white paper would clearly explain the issue to the people.

He said the Government was fully responsible for explaining the activities of this group so that the people would have no doubt about its existence.

Dr Mahathir was speaking to reporters after chairing the Umno supreme council meeting at the party headquarters here.

Asked whether there were Umno members who were FSFM members, he said there could be some who had fallen prey to the offers of positions but the number was not big.

Members of other political parties could also be involved, he said.

Asked whether action would be taken against these members, Dr Mahathir said the party would have to study the cases in detail before deciding on the action to be taken.

"Maybe they have been cheated or if they had been recruited with the knowledge about the objectives of the movement - this needed a different kind of action," he added.