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Singapore's statement on case is ridiculous, says PM

PUTRAJAYA, Thurs. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad reacted strongly to a Singapore statement that Malaysia had taken the republic to international adjudication for provisional measures over the issue on grounds which lacked merit.

Commenting on a statement issued by the republic that it will continue its preparation to argue the merits of Malaysia's claims before the tribunal to reject Malaysia's claims, he said.

"The suggestion is ridiculous. Until you take the case to arbitration, you wouldn't know if you are right or wrong. It is not about whether Malaysia wins or loses the case at the tribunal, but more importantly whether it was right or not for Singapore to undertake reclamation works at the Straits of Johor. Sometimes you win, sometimes you lose. That's the essence of arbitration."