

Mahathir: Chaos if Sedition Act is abolished
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Chaos will reign in the country if the Sedition Act is abolished and replaced with the Harmony and Unity Bills, former prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad said in a blog posting today.

In a short blog post, the octogenarian said the absence of the Sedition Act would allow "extremists" to question the monarchy in the country, and even call for the monarchy to be disbanded.

"Many people might get angry... But because sedition is allowed (once the law is repealed), those who are interested in setting up a Republic of Malaysia have the right and freedom to continue their campaign," Mahathir said.

"The possibility is chaos will take place in the country. This is the consequence of the liberal attitude that we are celebrating."

The law committee of the National Unity Consultative Council (NUCC) recently announced that it had drafted three harmony bills - namely the Racial and Religious Hate Crimes Bill, the National Harmony and Reconciliation Bill, and also the National Harmony and Reconciliation Commission Bill.

"We have already abolished the Internal Security Act (ISA) and we see the results, an increase in crimes," Mahathir said.

He said that the new harmony bills will "not prevent" sedition from happening.

"In Thailand there is a Lese Majeste law that prevents any criticism towards the king and the monarchy. But in Malaysia this law does not exist," he added.

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