

'Bar Israeli ships from entering M'sian waters'
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Selangor PKR Youth today called on the government to bar Israeli ships from entering Malaysian waters if it was serious about its denunciations against the Zionist regime's violation of international law.

In a statement, the Selangor PKR Youth information chief Mohd Ezli NONE said this should be done to bring the government's trade policy in line with the parliamentary motion passed earlier this week condemning Israel.

The motion, tabled by Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak on Monday, followed worldwide outrage after Israeli naval commandos on May 31 intercepted six humanitarian aid-laden ships bound for Gaza, which led to the fatal shooting of at least nine mostly Turkish activists.

Ten Malaysian volunteers and two journalists were among the hundreds of mostly foreign passengers on aboard the flotilla who were detained by the Israeli military before being deported two days later.

Najib yesterday said Malaysia will seek the agreement of like-minded countries to gather at a special session of the United Nations in September to condemn the atrocities of the Zionist regime.

"I will ask our UN permanent representative in New York to meet with the UN secretary-general to state that Malaysia is one of the countries which will bring a resolution on the matter.

"I will also contact member countries of the OIC (Organisation of the Islamic Conference), NAM (Non-Aligned Movement) and other like-minded countries so that they will be in agreement to the holding of a UN special session in September," Najib was reported as saying.

azlanEzli, however, expressed wonder that Israeli ships could still enter Malaysian waters at dock at the country's ports when it purportedly has no official political or economic ties with Israel.

It was reported yesterday that about 100 members of Northport (M) Bhd Employees Union members staged a brief protest against the arrival of Israeli merchant vessels at Malaysian ports.

According to reports, Israeli commercial vessels were allowed to dock at Malaysian ports on at least two occasions recently, on May 20 and on June 7, the day after Najib's anti-Israel speech in Parliament where he called on the world to act against the Zionist regime.

Raising this issue today, Ezli said the state PKR Youth calls on the government to inform Parliament details pertaining to the number of Israeli trade and cargo ships that have been permitted to enter Malaysian waters, and since when they have done so.

"The (granting of permission for the) entry and docking of Israeli commercial ships at our country's ports is inconsistent with Parliament's motion to condemn the violence perpetrated by Israel's commandoes against the humanitarian Mavi Marmara ship.

"Selangor PKR Youth also states its severe protest if after this permission is still granted to trade and cargo ships that have commercial relations with the Zionist Israeli regime and are free to 'colonise' our sovereign waters," said Ezli.

"There is no reason for the government of Malaysia to still allow Israeli commercial ships to arrogantly and blatantly enter our maritime territories," he added.

Calling on the government to exercise more courage, firmness and consistency with regards to the Israel-Palestine issue, Ezli said the Selangor PKR Youth wing 'demanded' that the government act within 48 hours to issue a notice against the entry of Israeli ships from docking at any of Malaysia's ports.

Ezli did not state what actions the wing would take in the event its demands are ignored.

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