

Rally: All Must Respect Agong's Call
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MELAKA -- All quarters are urged to respect the statement of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin, on the proposed illegal rally on Saturday.

Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin said the Agong's statement placed top priority on the well-being of the people, national unity and peace.

"This is because the problem of wanting to hold an illegal rally had reached a worrying stage, and if it does take place, it will augur bad things for the nation," he told reporters after meeting state youth leaders, non-government organisations, workers associations and Village Development and Security Committee at Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan (C) Yu Ying, Semabok, here yesterday.

Also present were Chief Minister Mohd Ali Rustam, Deputy Home Minister Abu Seman Yusop and state executive council members.

He was commenting on the reminder of the Agong that in the fervor of fostering democracy, people must ensure that such demands did not bring destruction to the country.

The Agong said, the people must not ape the practices of other countries because harmony and stability are important foundations for a nation and must be defended by all quarters.

Muhyiddin, who is on a one-day visit to Melaka, said it was the right of the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong as the Supreme Head of the Federation to advise all parties, and that his call must be respected and not viewed lightly.

"The statement of the Agong is not seen as interfering in the government administration," he added.

The illegal gathering was organised by an illegal organisation which in itself was an offence under the law, he said.

During the ceremony, Muhyiddin received a memorandum and banner from the president of the Melaka Youth Federation Council, Zali Md Yasin, who protested vehemently against the proposed illegal rally.

Muhyiddin also had lunch with more than 1,000 people at the school field.

(Bernama)