

Govt Will Not Bow To Threats
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DENPASAR -- Muhyiddin Yassin has hit out at the opposition which seems to be threatening the government with more street demonstrations to achieve their demand for clean and fair elections.

The Malaysian deputy prime minister also reminded the opposition not to manipulate their original objective just to achieve their political agenda including creating public hatred towards the government.

"Do not take any threatening action (against the government). We will not bow to threats but since they (opposition) have a political motive, they are trying to make it look as though the government is insensitive, our electoral system is outdated and that our general elections had been conducted improperly," he said Monday.

Muhyiddin, who is here to attend the informal meetings of Asean Education Ministers, said if the opposition parties were really sincere about improving the electoral system, which the ruling Barisan Nasional government also desired, they should be taking a positive approach.

On July 9, about 6,000 people, supported by the opposition, took part in an illegal rally in Kuala Lumpur, demanding the government to improve the electoral system which they claimed to be not transparent.

"Our electoral system has been tested for more than five decades and this system should be accepted by all," he said.

Muhyiddin also criticised the opposition for refusing to accept the explanations on their demands given by the Election Commission, an independent body which has been managing the general elections and by-elections in the country.

He said the explanations did not come from the government or a minister, but by the EC chairman himself.

"There are only certain other areas which need to be discussed with the government. But there must be a process for these areas to be improved."

Muhyiddin said the opposition never blamed the electoral system when they won (five states in the 2008 general election) but would deem the system dirty and unfair if they lost.

He said the people should judge whether those who organised the illegal rally had merely been used as a political tool by the opposition.

(Bernama)