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## Dr M's letters prove stand on Israel: Muhyiddin

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KUALA TERENGGANU: The letters by former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad to three Israeli prime ministers are proof of the government's consistent stand in not recognising the Jewish state.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the contents of Mahathir's letters, which have been published by the media, also prove that the Malaysian government has no diplomatic ties with Israel.

"The government agreed to reveal the contents of the letters sent to the three Israeli prime ministers.

"They clarify our government's stand that right from the time of Tun Dr Mahathir as the prime minister, we have opposed the violent acts of the Zionist Israel.

"Also in the letters, it is stated our requests for Israel to withdraw from the occupied land and to stop its violence against the Palestinian people," he told reporters yesterday.

Earlier, Muhyiddin, who is here for a one-day working visit, held a special meeting with state and federal civil servants. Also present was Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Ahmad Said.

Mahathir's letters were released to prove Malaysia's firm stand against the Israeli atrocities.

Elaborating the matter, Muhyiddin said Malaysia has always wanted the Palestinian people to have their own sovereign country, with their rights to be respected, not to be treated cruelly and murdered.

"It is clear, in this matter, the Barisan Nasional (BN) government does not vacillate, unlike (Opposition Leader Datuk Seri) Anwar Ibrahim.

"When he was in the government and Umno, he supported our aspiration for Palestine, but now his concern is for Israel's security. The question on the Palestinian people being tortured and not protected is ignored," he added.

Muhyiddin said the government is steadfast in its policy and stand on the matter.

"Until today, our efforts to help the Palestinian people who are being oppressed continue, including providing them with humanitarian aid," he added. - Bernama