

# PM: 'NEGARAKU' SUNG ONLY IN BM

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It cannot be sung in other languages, says Dr Mahathir

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**T**HE national anthem *Negaraku* cannot be sung in any other language except Bahasa Melayu by citizens of this country, said Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysians should know how to sing *Negaraku* in the national language as it was enshrined in the Constitution.

He said what was permitted were its written translations to enable other races to comprehend the meaning of the words.

"We cannot sing (*Negaraku*) in other languages. What is written in the book is to show the meaning so that non-Malays understand the wording but it is not for singing in other languages other than our national language," he said after a get-together with



Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad speaking at a get-together with Pakatan Harapan leaders and departmental heads in Langkawi yesterday.  
BERNAMA PIC

Pakatan Harapan leaders and departmental heads here yesterday.

Last Friday, the Education Ministry said it would conduct an investigation into a video clip showing pupils singing *Negaraku* in Mandarin.

Education director-general Datuk Dr Amin Senin was quoted as saying it would not compromise with anyone who went against the Constitution,

whether the act was intentional or otherwise.

On Saturday, Home Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin urged everyone to cease creating issues that could touch on the sensitivities of Malaysians.

He said those who failed to do would face the full brunt of the law.

"The government, through the ministry, will not compromise on

any action that can disrupt peace and public order."

Muhyiddin was referring to "provocative statements" regarding several incidents, namely the singing of *Negaraku* in Mandarin and Arabic, as well as the display of the Jalur Gemilang with five stars instead of 14 at a sporting association event's digital display.

"The police are investigating these incidents."

Malaysia Unity Foundation trustee Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye said *Negaraku* and Jalur Gemilang, which are symbols of patriotism and unity, should not be mocked or altered.

"Malaysians, regardless of race or religion, should respect *Negaraku*, Jalur Gemilang and the five principles of the Rukun Negara.

"I've observed that the rapid pace of technological development has led the younger generation to overlook their importance," he told Bernama.

On the video of *Negaraku* being sung in Mandarin, Lee said this should not be done as the national anthem was enshrined in the National Anthem Act 1968 and could not be changed to suit one's whims and fancies.

"The national anthem is sacred. No one should mock or change it.

"It must be sung in Bahasa Melayu, in its original form," said Lee, who is Alliance of Safety Community chairman.

Page 1 pic: Malaysian hockey players singing the national anthem at Stadium Hoki Taman Daya, Johor Baru, in October last year.