

**Government Prepared To Publish Dr M's Letters To Israeli Leaders - Najib
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MELAKA, Feb 24 (Bernama) -- The letters sent by former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad to two Israeli leaders will be made public if it brings no harm to the country, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said.

He said he has asked Wisma Putra to go through the letters and determine whether they can be made public.

"I think that if there is no harm to the country, there is no reason why we cannot publish the letters. The opposition is trying to create confusion over the letters," he told reporters after a walkabout in Melaka city.

Najib said the opposition has come under pressure over the statement by one of its leaders expressing support for Israel.

Opposition Leader and Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR) advisor Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim had, in a recent interview with the Wall Street Journal, expressed support for "all efforts to protect the security of the state of Israel".

"It is an expression of unqualified support which has angered the Malaysian people. Now, they are trying to find excuses, such as perhaps we are having relations with Israel and so on," said Najib.

The prime minister said steps must be taken to rid the misconception the opposition is trying to raise.

Dr Mahathir reportedly acknowledged having written to two Israeli prime ministers during the time he was prime minister to emphasise that Malaysians do not recognise the Zionist regime which oppresses the Palestinian people.

The former prime minister said he still kept the letters and did not know why the government prohibited their being made public.

Commenting on the reluctance of several senior executive councillors of the PAS-led Kedah government from being reappointed owing to alleged dissatisfaction over the style of leadership of Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Azizan Abdul Razak, Najib said it was a party matter.

"It seems like the matter is getting more serious. Let's wait and see what happens on Feb 28," he said in reference to the date for the scheduled reappointment of Kedah state executive councillors at Istana Anak Bukit.

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