

**Be Mature, Don't Jeopardise National Security With No ISA - Dr M
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TANJUNG MALIM, Sept 21 (Bernama) -- Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has expressed hope that Malaysians are mature and will not do anything that can jeopardise national security after the Internal Security Act 1960 has been abolished.

Concerned that certain quarters might take advantage of the abolishment of the ISA, Dr Mahathir hoped the people would not gamble away the fate of the country by taking the issue of national security for granted.

"I hope Malaysians are mature enough to understand that when there is no such security law (ISA) around, they must exercise self-control. You must discipline yourselves not to undermine the country's security," he said after delivering a Za'aba premier lecture at Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, here, Wednesday.

On the new laws to replace the ISA, Dr Mahathir hoped they could overcome weaknesses of the ISA to ensure no abuses.

"The shortcoming of the ISA is that there is no court trial and the decision depends on the discretion of those in authority, hence there could be misuse of power.

On the willingness of the United States to assist Malaysia to draw up new laws to replace the ISA, Dr Mahathir said the government could listen to their views but at the same time, it should exercise caution.

"The US has the Patriot Act which gives full power to the President to do anything. If we go to the US, even our shoes will be checked and if they think we're Muslims, we'll be taken away separately and searched all over. Our government does not have to follow this.

"We are efficient too in looking after security. We don't need the US style of doing it," he said.

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