

**People Indebted To Security Forces - Dr Mahathir  
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LAHAD DATU, March 17 (Bernama) - The people are indebted to security forces despite manipulation by the opposition that the terrorist intrusion was orchestrated.

Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the people were not influenced by opposition propaganda insulting security forces although ten members were killed in Ops Daulat.

"The people are indebted and confident in our security forces. When faced with such situation, Malaysians are united in defending the country. Efforts to divide the people by a political party failed to erode support towards security forces," he said at Dewan Semai Bakti, Desa Kencana, Felda Sahabat, here Sunday.

Dr Mahathir spent some time talking with the 200 security forces members in the community hall.

He hopes the people, especially in Sabah give high tribute to security forces who work tirelessly to defend national sovereignty against external threats.

Accordingly, the Sulu community in Sabah also dismissed the action by the terrorists although they are from the same race.

In this regard, Dr Mahathir said Malaysia must enhance national defence without relying on other parties, unlike some countries.

He is convinced that the administration of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak will enhance defence and will not allow terrorist attacks to recur.

"I want to thank security forces members who sacrifice their life in defending the country," he added.

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