

DAP wants government to provide medical treatment for imprisoned Hindraf leader

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The government should abide by international laws on the treatment of prisoners and provide medical treatment for Hindraf de facto leader P. Uthayakumar, said the DAP.

Secretary-general Lim Guan Eng said the federal government should "accede to Uthayakumar's wife's request that he be sent to UKM Medical Centre".

"Whatever political differences there is, our country should not lose one's humanity by refusing medical treatment for political opponents," he said in a statement today.

The Indian rights leader was sentenced last month to two years and six months in prison for publishing a seditious letter.

He was charged in 2007 after posting a letter to Britain's former prime minister, Gordon Brown with accusations that the Malaysian government had committed 'mini genocide' and 'ethnic cleansing'.

Lim said providing Uthayakumar with full medical treatment would assure his family that he will not be stricken by "paralysis".

The former lawyer-turned-activist is reportedly suffering from diabetes and a degenerative disc disease that causes severe back pains.

Uthayakumar's wife, S. Indra Devi has been pleading for the prison authorities to adhere to doctors' advice on relieving her husband's backache.

"My husband deserves better treatment," she told the media yesterday.

Ever since his imprisonment, his wife has been making repeated requests for Uthayakumar to be properly treated for his illnesses. – July 21, 2013

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