

Explanation on temple rioting proves government's stern stand - Gobind

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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 29 (Bernama) -- The explanation given by the government on the rioting at the Seafeld Sri Maha Mariamman Temple in USJ 25, near Subang Jaya, is proof of its stern action on the matter, said Communications and Multimedia Minister Gobind Singh Deo.

He also supported the call by Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad for Malaysians to remain calm and united in times like this.

"As the Prime Minister said, we should appreciate the unity and peace in our country and we have to look at this as a criminal case, not one involving racial issues.

"I fully support the explanation by the Prime Minister and we are also thankful for the statement by Home Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin who was very clear about what actually happened," he told reporters at the Parliament lobby here.

He said the people must work together to play a part in ensuring peace in the country and to be cautious about sharing unverified information.

Gobind, who is also Puchong MP, said the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) would probe the matter and stern action would be taken.

"As far as Section 233 is concerned, I want to make it very clear that when it comes to matters which affect national security and of course relations among races, there will be an investigation and stern action will be taken. The MCMC is still monitoring the position and working closely with the task force," he said.

Gobind asserted that freedom of speech did not mean absolute freedom as there are laws

and limits that should be complied with.

"So this is something I take very seriously. I will be discussing at the Cabinet meeting tomorrow on the measures that need to be taken and issue a statement will be made on the outcome," he added.

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