

Rethink criticism of Govt, Dr M urged

The Star - 8/7/2006

KUALA TERENGGANU: Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar has urged Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad to reconsider his criticisms of the present administration.

"I hope that Tun will sit, ponder, and calm down on his stand, to save his country," he said after delivering a talk on current issues organised by the state Umno information and liaison body.

"The present administration is not bent on destroying the nation; it wants to make the Government much stronger and more resilient."

Commenting on the proposal for a mediator to meet with Dr Mahathir, Syed Hamid said the Government had no qualms in sending anyone that Dr Mahathir wants to meet.

"But the problem is he (Tun)

has produced leaflets containing allegations and his speeches. This makes things difficult. When it's like that, I feel his approach is wrong," he said.

He said Dr Mahathir, as the former number one leader and who is highly experienced in leading the country, should use the appropriate platform to seek explanations.

The approach used by Dr Mahathir was in stark contrast to what he used to do during his days as leader, he said, adding that the episode would not affect Malaysia's credibility.

"I think people can understand because Tun has a good reputation internationally and locally," he said.

"People do not take it seriously because they understand it was only the dissatisfaction of a former leader," he said. — Bernama