

# Dr M on the morally corrupt

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In a special interview on the occasion of the end of his first year as Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad firmly indicated that he would continue to push hard in his relentless fight against corruption.

On corruption in particular, though he reports that "a lot of people now seem worried about their past and there have been some suggestions that we should go slow," Dr. Mahathir conveyed a sense of frustration at not being able to get at the morally corrupt.

He highlighted the recent Taman Aman case in Petaling Jaya, which was exposed in the *New Sunday Times* on July 1, as an instance where there is clear moral corruption although no legally answerable case.

He said: "I know hundreds of acres of land have been alienated in this way, but I can't catch them. I know they are morally corrupt but I can't expose them."

"I think you can expose them like you did in the case of Taman Aman. There is no corruption, that is, legally. But I think the public feels there is morally a corrupt practice."

The Prime Minister further revealed that in the Taman Aman case, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam had phoned former Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Hormat Rafel before a decision had been made by the State Exco.

Datuk Musa asked Datuk Hormat if it was true that there was a move to allocate the park land and was told that nothing of that nature was

happening.

In any case, Datuk Musa advised the Selangor Government to do no such thing — an advice obviously disregarded.

Dr. Mahathir was also asked to reflect on whether he was not afraid of losing strong support because of his clean-up campaign.

He replied that he was enjoying good support at the moment from the people of the country. As long as they continued to support him, he would go on. Otherwise, he will be out.