

BMF proceedings to take 5 years: PM

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KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today it would take about five years before the culprits in the BMF loans scandal could be brought to justice.

He said he was also told that the extradition trial of former BMF chairman Lorrain Esme Osman and former BMF director Datuk Hashim Shamsuddin would take at least a year.

The two are being tried in London, where the Hong Kong Government is seeking their extradition on 85 charges of fraud.

He said the Government could not take action against the culprits because the matter was out of Malaysia's jurisdiction.

"We have to depend on the British Government and the Hong Kong Government to bring the culprits to justice," he added at the joint-opening of the Batu, Lembah Pantai and Seputeh Umno division delegates' assemblies here.