



MR KARPAL SINGH
...said he was under
detention at the time

QUOTE

I NOW accuse him in this House — not outside — that he planned the robbery after obtaining information from certain people that there were pornographic video tapes in the safe in Mr Vijandran's house.

SOMETIMES there are people who are perverts who like to stand naked in front of mirrors. Now with the latest technology available, there might be some who want to video tape themselves in the nude.

...Dr Mahathir



DR MAHATHIR
...answered five of nine
questions

★ FROM PAGE ONE

make the tapes a political issue as it was "poor in issues".

He said he did not know whether the tapes were pornographic in nature and that this would be decided in court as a civil case on the matter was pending.

Dr Mahathir said it was clear the tapes were personal in nature and were kept in a safe.

"Sometimes there are people who are perverts who like to stand naked in front of mirrors. Now with the latest technology available, there might be some who want to video tape themselves in the nude.

"I am sure there are people who have pornographic video recordings, but the Opposition has blown this particular case out of proportion because they were politically weak and had no other issues to raise."

To a question from Opposition Leader Lim Kit Siang (DAP-Tanjung), Dr Mahathir said the destruction of the tapes was done in accordance with the law and the Attorney-General did not violate any law when he instructed the police to do so.

He said it was normal for police to destroy exhibits and evidence in any case that was not prosecuted in court.

"The Attorney-General allowed the destruction because the police did not have a case against the suspects arrested for the robbery."

In answering the five questions at the same time, Dr Mahathir said there was no provision for the Attorney-General to discuss with the Prime Minister or any other Cabinet Minister the duties he had to perform.

He said he first knew of the matter through the allegation Mr Karpal Singh made in the newspapers.

"The allegation was made in Mr Karpal Singh's usual style, that is, without evidence and politically motivated."

Dr Mahathir said since there were allegations that the Attorney-General had wrongly advised the police to destroy the tapes, an investigation was carried out.

The Solicitor-General had clarified that the Attorney-General had not violated any law when he allowed the destruction.

He said the Government believed in the rule of law and respect for the judiciary, and the since the matter was now in court it was best to allow justice to take its course.

Robbery at Vijandran's house

PM: Karpal

NOT 15 MAR 1990

was behind it

By Jeffrey Ramayah

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — The Prime Minister today accused Jelutong MP Karpal Singh of having planned the robbery at the house of former Dewan Rakyat Deputy Speaker D.P. Vijandran on Aug 3, 1988.

He said the DAP Member of Parliament had planned to "entrap" the Kapar MP and had instructed that the safe which was carted away by the robbers be opened and the tapes be allowed to fall into the hands of the police.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the whole affair was planned by Mr Karpal Singh after he received information that there were pornographic video tapes in the safe in Mr Vijandran's house.

The Hansard recorded that when Mr Karpal Singh first made the allegation, he said he had the proof. "And if he had the proof it must have been with him," Dr Mahathir said.

He said the MP, who had a proclivity for making baseless accusations, was now claiming that he had no proof to support his allegation that Mr Vijandran was involved in pornographic tapes as they had been destroyed.

It was possible that Mr Karpal Singh, using par-

liamentary privilege, was making another of his baseless accusations when he said the Prime Minister had ordered the destruction of the tapes, Dr Mahathir said.

"I now accuse him in this House — not outside — that he planned the robbery after obtaining information from certain people that there were pornographic video tapes in the safe in Mr Vijandran's house."

Dr Mahathir said the motive of the opposition party was not just to discredit Mr Vijandran, but through him to tarnish the image of Maika Holdings, the MIC, the Barisan Nasional and the Government.

Shortly after Dr Mahathir made the accusation, Mr Karpal Singh stood up to ask how he could have planned the robbery as on Aug 3, 1988, he was still under detention at the Kamunting detention camp.

Dr Mahathir replied that the Jelutong MP could have engaged others to carry out his plans.

The Prime Minister took about one hour — most of Question Time — to answer five of the nine questions pertaining to the destruction of the 11 video tapes and 2,000 photographs that were stolen from Mr Vijandran's house. Written answers were given to the other four questions.

The questions had appeared on an Order Paper last week but MPs were informed that the Prime Minister would answer all of them the following week.

Dr Mahathir said the Opposition wanted to

★ PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 2, COL 10