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MAHATHIR SAYS ACA WILL CONTINUE PROBE INTO MAIKA'S TELEKOM SHARE ISSUE

Mahathir-Maika

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KUALA LUMPUR, July 2, (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) investigations into the Telekom Malaysia shares issue involving Maika Holdings will continue and a report would be submitted to the government.

The Cabinet could not decide on the matter, he told reporters at the Stadium Negara where he attended celebrations to mark Maal Hijrah, the first day of the Muslim year.

+It is not for the Cabinet to decide,+ he said in reply to reporters' questions about the explanation given by MIC President Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu to the Cabinet yesterday pertaining to the issue.

Dr Mahathir declined to say whether or not he was satisfied with the explanation by Samy Vellu, who is Energy, Telecommunications and Post Minister.

+There is an investigation... the investigation will continue until the government receives a report,+ he said. -- more

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Yesterday, Samy Vellu, who also declined to disclose the Cabinet's reaction to his explanation, said the matter was closed as far as he was concerned.

ACA Director Tan Sri Zulkifli Mahmud, who also attended the celebrations at Stadium Negara, offered no comments.

The issue became public after DAP Secretary General Lim Kit Siang's allegations of irregularities in the allocation of 10 million Telekom Malaysia shares to Maika Holdings, the MIC's investment arm, in 1990.

Nine million of the shares subsequently went to three companies in which, he alleged, Samy Vellu had an interest.

Samy Vellu, who strongly denied the allegations, said the shares were allotted to the Indian community and that proceeds of the sale of the shares given to the three companies were channelled to the development of MIC's Tafe College in Seremban.

The ACA investigations into the issue began in April, headed by its Federal Territory Director Nordin Ismail. -- Bernama

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