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PM TO REFER ELYAS' RESIGNATION TO CABINET

Mahathir - Elyas

from Zulkefli Salleh 2- (12)

JAKARTA, Sept. 2 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today he would refer to the Cabinet for a decision on the announced resignation of Tan Sri Elyas Omar as the Datuk Bandar of Kuala Lumpur.

However, the Prime Minister said, he had not received the resignation letter and did not know its contents.

+I have to read the letter and find out the reasons. I have to consult my Cabinet colleagues first,+ he told Malaysian reporters here when asked whether the government accepted Elyas' resignation.

Elyas last night announced his decision to resign as Kuala Lumpur Datuk Bandar with effect from Sept 17, claiming full responsibility for the decisions and actions of City Hall.

His decision came weeks after the press highlighted allegations of irregularities in City Hall's purchase of 23 Volvo cars for its senior officers. -- more

▼02/09/18-19MST

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Mahathir - Elyas 2 (last) Jakarta

Dr Mahathir is in the Indonesian capital to attend the ongoing Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit.

He said the government would study the outcome of the investigations into allegations of irregularities in City Hall's purchase of the cars to determine whether they were true or otherwise.

The purchase of the cars became a controversy following claims that it had not been in accordance with Treasury regulations.

To further questions, Dr Mahathir said: +It is a pity because he (Elyas) has served for a long time. Maybe he is hurt by the allegations.+  
-- Bernama