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Dr Mahathir: Criticisms politically-motivated

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - Criticisms by DAP MP for Kota Melaka Lim Guan Eng on the High Court decision finding him guilty on two counts of maliciously printing false news, are politically motivated.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Lim's regular criticisms of the Government were also politically motivated.

"Why is it that others who are not interested in politics do not make such comments? That's because they are not politicians," he told reporters after launching the "Malaysia Challenge", a world sailing match grand prix championship, at the Renaissance Hotel.

The match is touted as the biggest and most prestigious of its kind in Asia, and will be held for the first time at this year's Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace exhibition in December. Dr Mahathir was asked to comment on Lim's remarks that the charges against him (Lim) was a political ploy to end his political career.

Dr Mahathir said the Opposition was trying to give the impression that Malaysian courts were unfair.

"That's what the Press will read anyway. Of course the Press feels that whatever (is said) against the Government is fair, but anything against the Opposition is unfair. So what's the good of asking me when you have made up your mind," he said when asked to comment on statements by certain quarters that the decision of the court was harsh.

Asked whether Lim should resign his party positions, including as DAP deputy secretary-general, Dr Mahathir said: "I don't know. That's his business."

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