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Dr M: CLOB will be treated separately

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday maintained that the Central Limit Order Book issue will be treated separately from other matters to be discussed as a package by Malaysia and Singapore.

He said while the issues of water supply to Singapore and railway were matters that the two governments should deal with, CLOB was not.

"CLOB was not started by this Government (Malaysia). We have never participated in it and neither were we responsible for it. We do not see why we should be responsible for it now," Dr Mahathir said.

He was commenting on Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong's remarks that the CLOB issue should not be left out of the outstanding package of issues between both nations.

Goh was quoted as saying: "You cannot just resolve the (bilateral) issues as a package and leave CLOB hanging. You can have two tracks, but the end point must be the same."

Goh and fellow ministers had said that the CLOB issue was initially on the agenda for discussions but was taken off at Dr Mahathir's request.

Both nations have held three meetings to negotiate the various outstanding issues as a package, including water supply to Singapore and the relocation of the Malaysian Customs and Immigration facilities.

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