

MTUC asks PM to intervene in EPF dispute

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PETALING JAYA: The Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC) has urged Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to intervene in its disagreement with the Employees Provident Fund (EPF).

Its president Zainal Rampak said the congress was still open to talks before the May 12 picket.

The MTUC wants the EPF to restore death and incapacitation benefits and to suspend the EPF annuity scheme. It also voiced dissatisfaction over the 6% dividend declared last year, the lowest in 26 years.

The 78.7 million *TimeDotcom* initial public offer shares purchase is another issue.

"The Prime Minister should intervene as this is a national matter and concerns the welfare of workers. If the issues with the EPF are resolved, the Government will get a good name, not us. It will also restore contributors' confidence in the EPF.

"We appreciate Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn's effort to find a solution to the matter but it involves more than just the Human Resources Ministry. It also involves the Finance Ministry and EPF. It will be good if the Prime Minister intervened," Zainal said.