

# ***Mahathir: Daim not under probe***

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has quashed talk that former Finance Minister Tun Daim Zainuddin is under investigation.

On a question about rumours that Daim was placed under house arrest following an alleged raid on his home by Anti-Corruption Agency officers, Dr Mahathir said: "There is no investigation. Maybe they have talked to him, I don't know.

"As the new Finance Minister, I met up with him yesterday (Monday) as I wanted to know more details about certain things.

"I don't know whether this is the reason why anybody should ask him anything. There is no problem," Dr Mahathir told a press conference after attending a close-door briefing for Umno delegates here yesterday.

Dr Mahathir said Daim had told him that he was going ahead with his resignation as Finance Minister and Umno treasurer.

"He came to have a word with

me on the party accounts because he's no longer the treasurer.

"Yesterday (Monday), he told me certain details which he had not given me. He brought all the files and handed over everything to me," Dr Mahathir added.

Dr Mahathir said he did not explain Daim's resignation during the briefing.

"I gave him two months to think about it, but he decided to go ahead with his plans.

"We are not at war with each other," he added.

Asked whether the delay in replacing Daim was due to the unavailability of suitable candidates, Dr Mahathir said: "Maybe we can get (a candidate), maybe we can't.

"But I can do the job. I no longer work 24 hours a day, but 48 hours," he added.

Asked whether Daim would turn up at the Umno general assembly which begins tomorrow, Dr Mahathir said it was Daim's prerogative.