

Mahathir dismisses speculation

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday dismissed speculation that he has appointed former Bank Negara governor Tan Sri Ali Abul Hassan Sulaiman as the Second Finance Minister.

"You media seem to know more than me. I wasn't aware of this until you asked," he said after chairing the Barisan Nasional supreme

council meeting.

When asked if the candidate he was considering was someone else, he said the media should not presume to know what he was thinking.

Dr Mahathir is holding the Finance portfolio, a post he has held since Tun Daim Zainuddin resigned last year.

He said: "I want to tell you that I did not take a four-wheeler with somebody to the

Karak Highway. I think these people should not be running any magazines or papers at all if they are so lacking in news that they have to fabricate."

Dr Mahathir was referring to a regional-based business magazine article that he had taken Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim from prison for a secret hour-long rendezvous to discuss a possible political reconciliation.

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