

PM to look into high-profile cases

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KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - The Government is looking into concerns that some high-profile cases were not being brought to court, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said.

Dr Mahathir said he had been briefed by Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim about this "trend".

"He has briefed me about it and I think there is something that has caused him to make that statement, and we are looking into it.

"It is based on facts," he said after opening the 53rd Fiabci 2002 World Congress.

Meanwhile, Rais told the *New Straits Times* that the Cabinet today directed the relevant authori-

ties to brief Dr Mahathir on outstanding criminal investigations.

He said he had informed Dr Mahathir and the Cabinet about the matter which had caused ripples when he first raised it a week ago.

"The Cabinet had received the matter well. I have conveyed to both the Prime Minister and Cabinet the matters which need attention.

"It reinforced the case that there was a need for certain authorities to report to the Prime Minister over certain matters pertaining to the administration of law and good governance," he said.

Last week, Rais had said enforcement authorities would lose their credibility if publicity-hyped investigations into white-collar crime do not lead to a satisfactory conclusion.

He had said it had become a

trend for major investigations to become the talk of the town, but nothing happened following that. He himself had received complaints from the public on the matter.

Rais said the briefing by the authorities would include outstanding general matters and specific cases. The relevant Ministers would also be present.

He, however, declined to disclose the authorities to be called, or the cases which he had disclosed to the Cabinet.

Asked if the authorities should provide reports on outstanding matters, he said it was his personal opinion that they should report regularly to the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister or Minister in charge.

This was part of good governance and administration.