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Singapore's overdoing it with personal attacks

By Hashim Ambia

SINGAPORE'S leaders should not have poured cold water on the humorous gesture by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Valentine's Day.

Most probably it was meant to defuse the unnecessary tension between Malaysia and Singapore over the Pulau Batu Puteh outcrop and other matters.

Responding with an allegation that Dr Mahathir is an "entertaining story-teller" and "a very good spin doctor" surely does not help anyone, least of all Singapore.

Such criticism is getting a bit personal. Even in the hectic days of separation in 1965, Lee Kuan Yew did not get personal about the affable Tengku Abdul Rahman.

If, as alleged, Dr Mahathir is a spin doctor, he must have learnt the art in Singapore. After all, he qualified as a doctor in the island republic.

We urge Singapore to stop over-doing it. Just come down to earth and try to solve our common problems.

Our little world, an outcrop on the world's map, will be a much better place if we can just do that.

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