

MP: Stop defending Najib over Hindraf MOU
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DAP's Serdang MP Ong Kian Ming today urged cabinet ministers Khairy Jamaluddin and Abdul Rahman Dahlan to stop defending Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak over the alleged non-implementation of the BN-Persatuan Hindraf Malaysia memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed last year before the general election.

Ong pointed out in a statement today that a separate budget allocation, which Khairy and Abdul Rahman said was being demanded by former deputy minister and the association's chair P Waythamoorthy, was exactly what Najib had promised if the duo had read the MOU.

"Both ministers are disingenuous in their defence of the prime minister in that they make no mention of the contents of the Persatuan Hindraf Malaysia MOU and to what extent the prime minister has failed or succeeded in implementing the promises outlined in this MOU," Ong said.

After referring to the demands made in the association's blueprint, Ong said that Najib had already signalled his intention not to honour the agreement when he appointed Waythamoorthy as a deputy minister and not a minister taking charge of his own ministry.

"Without a Minority Affairs Ministry and without a Persatuan Hindraf Malaysia minister, needless to say, the promise of a dedicated budget also failed to materialise," Ong said.

Ong said it is wrong for Khairy, who is the Youth and Sports Minister, to criticise Waythamoorthy over the latter wanting to control his own budget, as that was "explicitly spelt out" in the MOU.

"If Khairy, having been in cabinet for less than a year, can say that 'this is not how the government operates', then Prime Minister Najib, having been in cabinet for much longer, should never have signed the MOU with Persatuan Hindraf Malaysia if he had no intention of giving the association's appointed leader any budgetary control," Ong said.