

**Dr M: Cops can determine if Najib in the clear**  
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If the police conduct an investigation then it can be determined if Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak had committed a crime, said Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The former premier, however, pointed out that he did not make such accusations against Najib.

"In my blog, I never accused Najib of committing a crime.

"That can be determined if the police conduct an investigation (into former police commando Sirul Azhar Umar's claims).

"What I asked for is answers to the questions raised by the public," he added.

Mahathir was referring to his blog posting last week, which was interpreted as implying that Najib was linked to the murder of Altantuya Shaariibuu.

The former premier called on the police to investigate the claim by Sirul, a former police commando sentenced to death for the murder, that he was acting under orders.

Mahathir also clarified that he did not offer to help anyone to overcome their problems but did not elaborate on this.

After his initial blog posting, PAS information chief Mahfuz Omar revealed that Sirul was 'touched' by Mahathir's remark that it would be wrong to hang Sirul if he was following instructions.

It was also disclosed that Sirul's mother wanted to meet the former premier and Mahathir later said he had no qualms with this.

The police, which previously cleared Najib of any involvement in the murder, had dismissed the need for a new investigation.

Raising the Altantuya murder had sent shockwaves through Umno and the nation, with observers claiming that the former premier was playing his trump card to oust Najib.

The prime minister has chosen to remain silent amid calls within BN for him to make a stand.

Mahathir's posting was based on Sirul's exclusive interview with Malaysiakini, where he claimed that those with a motive to murder Altantuya were free.

Sirul is currently in Australia, where he fled before the Federal Court overturned his and

another former police commando Azilah Hadri's acquittal.

The pair was convicted and handed the death sentence.

Australian law forbids those facing the death penalty from being deported to their home countries.

Malaysia has yet to file an application for the extradition of Sirul, who is under the detention of Australian immigration authorities in Sydney.

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