

Next move - all eyes on Mahathir
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It has been more than seven hours since Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak revamped his cabinet, which saw Muhyiddin Yassin's head rolling.

However, Dr Mahathir Mohamad's blog chedet.cc has yet to witness a new posting.

The last posting was on July 20, where the former premier dispelled claims of a conspiracy to topple the incumbent prime minister.

In his trademark sarcastic manner, Mahathir remarked how could there be a cloak and dagger plot when his repeated calls on Najib to step down are made in the open.

These past two weeks have seen the prime minister shifting to high gear with regard to his critics.

After months of being on the defensive, Najib, who prides himself as having the blood of Bugis warriors coursing through his veins, went on the offensive.

The first strike was against external critics such as Sarawak Report, The Edge media group and opposition lawmakers who have been incessantly harping on the 1MDB issue.

After blocking access to Sarawak Report, Najib's new deputy Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, who also helms the Home Ministry, slapped The Edge with a three-month suspension.

There was a video confession and a Singapore Straits Times exclusive interview with Xavier Andre Justo that cast aspersion on Sarawak Report and The Edge possibly fabricating 1MDB documents.

This led to the police initiating an investigation against The Edge bosses and others involved in the issue for indulging in activities detrimental to parliamentary democracy.

The second strike was against the internal critics such as Muhyiddin (photo) and Mohd Shafie Apdal, which was executed this afternoon.

Apart from this, Abdul Gani Patail was removed as attorney-general though he appeared clueless about his own medical condition that warranted the action and BN lawmakers in the Public Accounts Committee were given government posts.

This placed a huge question mark on the special task force and PAC's respective probes on 1MDB.

So is a third strike in the making?

After all, Najib had declared Mahathir as the mastermind following The Wall Street Journal report that RM2.6 billion of 1MDB-linked funds were deposited into the prime minister's personal bank accounts.

"I believe Tun (Mahathir), working hand in glove with foreign nationals, including the now discredited political attack blog Sarawak Report, is behind this latest lie," he had said.

Hence, would light be finally shed on the "Umno man" who was among the 10 people, whom Thai police claimed met with Justo in relation to the bid to sell data stolen from PetroSaudi International Ltd?

Najib is a wounded tiger and is at his most ferocious. But at the same time, one cannot underestimate the battle-hardened old fox.

Over to you Dr M.

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