

**No confidence vote against Najib totally democratic, says Dr M
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There has never been a vote of no confidence against a prime minister in the Dewan Rakyat because none have been quite as bad as Najib Abdul Razak, claims former prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Mahathir said this in a blog post, responding to Dewan Rakyat speaker Pandikar Amin Mulia, who said that parliamentary standing orders are silent on this.

"True, it has never been done before. That was because none of the previous five prime ministers had RM2.6 billion in their personal accounts, nor had they been involved in financial scandals and the alleged murder of anyone," he said.

Mahathir was referring to the murder of Mongolian woman Altantuya Shaariibuu by two police commandos who were then serving as Najib's bodyguards.

Najib has repeatedly denied any link to the gruesome murder, committed in 2006.

The former prime minister continued to spew criticism on 1MDB, echoing his staunch stand against the government-owned investment firm.

He said Najib had put himself in too many scandals regarding 1MDB and that no other prime minister, among other things, had put himself in business deals such as investing more than US\$1 billion in dubious joint-venture projects with equally dubious Arab companies.

"But Najib is involved in all these. And now, other than saying 1MDB assets are worth more than the RM42 billion borrowed, he cannot prove where the money is.

"The assets are actually government land which Najib allowed 1MDB to acquire at ridiculously low prices, and then revalued 500 times more," he said.

Mahathir added that the process of a no-confidence vote against Najib in Parliament, which had been shot down by speaker, Pandikar (photo), is a democratic right under the constitution.

He chided Pandikar, who had reportedly said only he can decide whether to allow it or not as the Federal Constitution, the supreme law of the country, clearly states that if the prime minister no longer commands the support of the majority of the members of Parliament, he should resign.

"Article 43 (4) of the Federal Constitution states: "If the prime minister ceases to command the confidence of the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, then, unless at his request the Yang di-Pertuan Agong dissolves Parliament, the prime minister shall

tender the resignation of the Cabinet”.

"So, is the speaker trying to ignore the constitution?" Mahathir asked.

He also said that the perception that Malaysia is a corrupt country in the eyes of the world will only multiply and go against Malaysia, as long as Najib is in charge.

He also said that the supporters of the government do not even respect the constitution and openly admit to be in league with corruption.

"The people who can do something about it are totally without shame. They openly admit to having received money by the millions from the prime minister.

"This is corruption at its worst. They support the prime minister because he gave them money, money which he cannot explain with any credibility that he obtained legally," Mahathir said.

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