

## **Kit Siang: Will Dr M be 1MDB's next victim?**

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Former prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad could be the next "victim" in the backlash against 1MDB critics, predicted DAP parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang.

"I am only the latest victim of the 1MDB monster and more victims, including Mahathir, would be the casualties unless (it) can be stopped in its tracks," he said in a statement today.

Mahathir has been one of the most vocal critics of the troubled state fund since last year.

Right off the heels of being suspended yesterday from Parliament for six months, Lim, who is Gelang Patah MP, listed the "1MDB monster's" many casualties.

These included former deputy prime minister Muhyiddin Yassin, former rural and regional development minister Mohd Shafie Apdal and former attorney-general Gani Patail.

All three of them were removed from their positions in late July in a sweeping strike from Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak, said Lim.

Muhyiddin and Shafie had been vocal critics of 1MDB while Gani had been rumoured to be drafting a charge sheet related to the state fund, allegedly with the prime minister's name on it.

Lim reminded that even the Conference of Rulers have expressed concern over the 1MDB issue, calling for a quick resolution to its investigations.

"(These include) a clear disapproval of the delays and procrastinations in 1MDB investigations, including the three-month delay of the public accounts committee (PAC) into 1MDB investigations," he added.

### **Parliamentary procedures not followed**

With Najib presenting the Budget 2016 today in Parliament, Lim wondered if the prime minister would be able to say that the "1MDB monster" will be stopped.

The DAP supremo also spoke on his suspension from Parliament, which was voted through yesterday after being tabled by Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Azalina Othman Said.

"Parliamentary conventions, practice and procedures have been shoved aside to achieve the objective to suspend me from Parliament for six months," he said.

The proper procedure, he explained, would have been to refer him to the Committee of

Privileges to ascertain whether he had been in contempt of the speaker and Parliament.

On Monday, Lim accused the speaker of abusing his power by obstructing the PAC hearing on 1MDB.

Lim also called Pandikar a dictator for sabotaging Parliament's standing orders and politicising his status as the speaker of the House.

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