

Resign for 'stupid' signing of 1MDB docs without reading, Dr M tells Najib
MalaysiaKini.com
Apr 15th, 2016
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Former Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad has once again called on Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak to resign, this time for his "stupid move" to sign documents without reading them.

This, Mahathir said, was based on the findings of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) report on 1MDB, which shows how Najib is required to authorize all major decisions made by the state-owned fund.

"How do we authorise a document? By signing it. When we put our signature on a document, we authorise it.

"But Najib's lawyer said that it (signing a document) does not mean authorizing it. Najib just signed; he does not know anything. He did not even read it," Mahathir told a public forum on the PAC report on its 1MDB findings in Shah Alam last night.

Najib's lawyer, Hafarizam Harun, was quoted as saying on Wednesday that Najib's signature on 1MDB documents was merely to meet corporate governance requirements.

Hafarizam also said the signing of the documents does not necessarily mean that the prime minister has knowledge of or makes the decisions on 1MDB matters.

"How can someone like this be the prime minister?"

"I am asking Najib, based on his stupidity to sign documents without reading, that it is best for him to resign now," Mahathir told an audience of some 1,000 people, who cheered loudly upon hearing his call.

Article 117 in 1MDB's memorandum and articles of association (M&A) states that the prime minister must sign off on all major decisions.

Former 1MDB chief executive officer Shahrol Azral Ibrahim Halimi had reportedly told the PAC last year that the clause was included when the firm was known as the Terengganu Investment Authority (TIA) and to protect government interests.

Commenting further, Mahathir said the PAC report appears to have been "whitewashed" to free Najib from all allegations.

"And to make it easier for us to believe that the report has nothing to do with Najib, it named Shahrol as a scapegoat," he added.

Shahrol has since declared that nothing wrong had occurred during his tenure as 1MDB chief executive officer.

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