

**Dr M reveals suggesting NOC governance, offers to serve**

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**Zikri Kamarulzaman**

Dr Mahathir Mohamad revealed that he proposed the setting up of a National Operations Council (NOC) government similar to the one in 1969 during his audience with the Yang di-Pertuan Agong today.

However, the former premier is sceptical that the proposal would come to fruition.

"The Agong didn't reject it, he didn't say 'no', but he said in order to set up the NOC the proposal must come from the government.

"But I don't think the government will propose this, I don't think it's going to happen at all," he told an online media conference this afternoon.

The 95-year-old leader said the issue of who would lead NOC - also known as Mageran - was not discussed but he offered his services "if the government

wanted it". However, he doubts this would be accepted as well.

He cited objections to the NOC by Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin's principal private secretary Marzuki Mohamad as an example.

"According to him (Marzuki), everything is fine. Economy, social, pandemic, everything is fine.

"That is his opinion. We don't think it's fine. (About) 3,000 people have died (from Covid-19) who should not have died," he said.

Marzuki's 10-minute video clip was uploaded at 8pm yesterday where he alleged that there were people suggesting that the Yang di-Pertuan Agong form a new NOC.

He argued that this was unnecessary as times were different and that the country was currently facing a "health emergency" rather than a "security emergency" which necessitated NOC in 1969.

Meanwhile, Mahathir, elaborating on his proposal, said that with the NOC, the Tun (Abdul) Razak government managed to handle a political crisis stemming from the 1969 general election and subsequent race riots.

As such, he believed a similar entity in place now could help bring stability to the country.

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