

# Mahathir did not tell me I would not be arrested: Lim

**PETALING JAYA:** opposition Leader Lim Kit Siang denied yesterday that former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad told him before *Operation Lallang* in 1987 that he would not be arrested

Mahathir is trying to pass the buck to the police when he said that I was nonetheless detained under the Internal Security Act (ISA) on the insistence of the police," he said.

"He not only defended the initial 106 arrests by the police under Section 73 of the ISA he exercised his powers as the home minister under section 8 to formally issue

two-year ISA detention orders for 49 Malaysians, including seven DAP MPs.'

Lim wrote this in his web blog, referring to *theSun's* report of remarks made by Mahathir at a press conference on Wednesday.

Mahathir, who said he told Lim he would not be arrested, added that "I don't detain political opposition and personalities under the ISA, I release them".

Lim said Mahathir had always made "baseless claims" that DAP MPs had not been detained because they were opposition MPs

Mahathir cannot shirk responsibility by passing the buck to the police but must come clean and apologise to the nation for masta minding *operation Lallang*, he said.

"What Malaysians should be very concerned is that 34 months after the Abdullah administration, promising reform and transition towards a clean and more accountable, transparent, democratic and just Malaysia, the systems institutions and instruments of repression for another *operation Lallang* crackdown and mass arrests are basically intact," Lim added.