

# Najib: Stop discussing bridge and Dr M

PETALING JAYA: Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak has urged all parties to stop discussing issues pertaining to the "crooked bridge" and former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said this was because the issues had been answered and explained repeatedly by the government and should not be prolonged.

"We hope the issues will not be raised again. There should be a finality to the issues, they should not continue," he told reporters after launching the School Inspectorate

golden jubilee celebration here yesterday.

Najib said this when asked to comment on Mahathir's tirade against the Abdullah administration and his continued dissatisfaction with the government's explanation on the cancellation of the bridge project to replace the Malaysian side of the Causeway.

Mahathir had said on Saturday he would stop criticising the

government if it agreed to build the bridge.

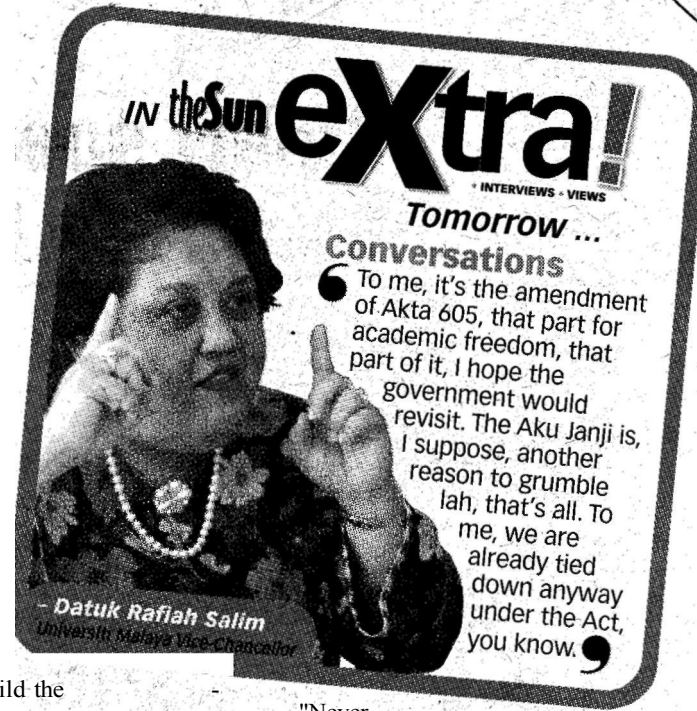
On Monday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi responded by saying the government would not retract the cabinet decision to scrap the project.

"The decision was made after the cabinet had discussed it

thoroughly and taken into consideration the people's interest," Abdullah said.

"We hope the issues will not be raised again. There should be a finality to the issues, they should not continue."

- Datuk Seri Najib



"Never mind, he (Mahathir) can say anything he wants. I am the prime minister, I have a job to do. I decide what is best for the people."

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Mohamed Nazri Abdul Aziz was quoted by the media decribing Mahathir's remarks that he would stop criticising the government if it resumed building the bridge as a blackmail.

"No. This is blackmail. We just can't reverse the decision just like that," he said.