

Dr M: I made a PM's decision

PUTRAJAYA: Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he was not going to lose sleep over the acquittal of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim because he is convinced he made the right decision to remove the former deputy prime minister.

"I am still convinced that I did the right thing. What I assumed he did, I believe he did and as we can see even judges have different opinions.

"I am entitled to my opinion and entitled to take whatever action, based on my own opinion," he told reporters at his Petronas Towers office here yesterday.

Saying he was mildly surprised with the decision, the former prime minister said despite the legal finding, he acted in good faith because he believed that Anwar was guilty.

"In this case, as prime minister, I don't have to wait until there is no reasonable doubt. I



Dr Mahathir: 'I have every right to dismiss anybody on mere suspicion'

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Asked whether it was difficult for him to accept the decision, Dr Mahathir said it was not a unanimous decision.

"I am not challenging the

decision. This is a decision from two out of three. Obviously this is the process of law, if you have majority decision, therefore the majority holds. But obviously the minority was not convinced," added

When told that Anwar had said he did not have feelings towards him, Dr Mahathir replied: "I must say he is a very generous person indeed."

On whether he had any advice for Umno and what Anwar's release, meant to the party and Malays, he said, he was no longer responsible for the party.

"I have my opinion and I will keep it to myself. That's the essence of not being involved. I watch things go on, I have never passed any comments."

On the possibility of Anwar rejoining Umno, Dr Mahathir said it was not for him to decide since he was no longer involved in politics.



JUBILANT CROWD: Anwar's supporters reacting emotionally to news of his release outside the Palace of Justice in Putrajaya yesterday.