

Ex-PM defends son's contract

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KEMAMAN: Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday defended the RM200 million contract his son obtained from Telekom Malaysia Berhad during his tenure.

The former prime minister said that Datuk Mukhriz Mahathir went through the proper channel to obtain the deal. He noted that after he stepped down as the PM, the project was cancelled.

"My son had to beg the 'powerful' Khairy (Jamaluddin) to reinstate the project, but in the end the project's value was slashed up to 15 per cent," he told reporters after launching the Ex-Servicemen Fund Collection Drive and Kemaman District Warriors Day celebration.

It was recently reported on a website that Opcom Sdn Bhd — a fibre optic company — was awarded the project just before Dr Mahathir stepped down.

All through his months of attacks on the government, Dr Mahathir had repeatedly said that his children did not benefit from government contracts during his tenure as the prime minister.