

PM: Look into Dr M's claim

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Umno has mechanism to deal with it

HELSINKI: Umno president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has ordered an investigation into Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's claim of bribery in his defeat at last Saturday's contest to be a delegate for the Kubang Pasu division.

Describing the allegation as serious, the Prime Minister said Umno had the mechanism to deal with such matters.

He said he had instructed Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid and Kubang Pasu division chairman Datuk Johari Baharom to look into the claim.

"We'll let them investigate and submit their report (to the Umno supreme council)," he

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Najib: Make formal complaint

Rafidah: Please stop it

Dr M's allegation insulting, says Nazri

said in reply to a question on whether Umno would look into the allegations.

Abdullah said the menteri besar had also informed him that he would be making a statement on the issue.

"I'm leaving it to them (Mahdzir and Johari) as they will know better since it's their

division," he told journalists at the end of the sixth Asia-Europe Meeting on Monday before flying to Havana for the 14th Non-Aligned Movement Summit.

The Prime Minister reiterated his earlier advice that outsiders should not be allowed to interfere in the divisions' election process.

The Prime Minister was responding to allegations by Dr Mahathir that he lost due to bribery among the delegates.

Dr Mahathir, who emerged ninth in the list of 15 aspirants, alleged that delegates were given a brown envelope containing the list of delegates that should be chosen, together with RM200.