

Dr M in stable condition at IJN

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KUALA LUMPUR: Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad was admitted to the National Heart Institute (IJN) yesterday.

A day after having breathing difficulties and being admitted to the Langkawi Hospital, Dr Mahathir was in high spirits and stable condition at IJN, according to his son Datuk Mukhriz Mahathir.

Mukhriz, who spoke to reporters at the IJN lobby yesterday evening, said his father was flown back here by private plane in the morning, accompanied by his wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, and personal doctor, Dr Nasir Muda.

Dr Mahathir was taken to the IJN by ambulance at 1.20pm.

"My mum got a scare when my father started having problems breathing on Monday," Mukhriz said.

Dr Mahathir was admitted to the intensive care unit of the Langkawi Hospital at 4.45pm on Monday after complaining of fatigue in his hotel room.

Mukhriz said his father's

breathlessness was a continuation of his heart condition.

He added that his father was doing well and able to talk to his family.

"He uses the mask on and off and is making jokes about his nose being too big for the mask."

However, Mukhriz could not say when Dr Mahathir would be discharged.

IJN issued a statement saying that Dr Mahathir was awake and conscious.

It also said that his condition remained stable and that he had no breathing difficulties.

Dr Mahathir and Dr Siti Hasmah arrived in Langkawi on Monday for a two-day visit.

In Langkawi, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi expressed hope that Dr Mahathir would make a full recovery.

Abdullah said he was unsure of the actual status of Dr Mahathir's condition, citing his hectic schedule on this island resort.

"I hope he will be looked after and gets proper treatment."

