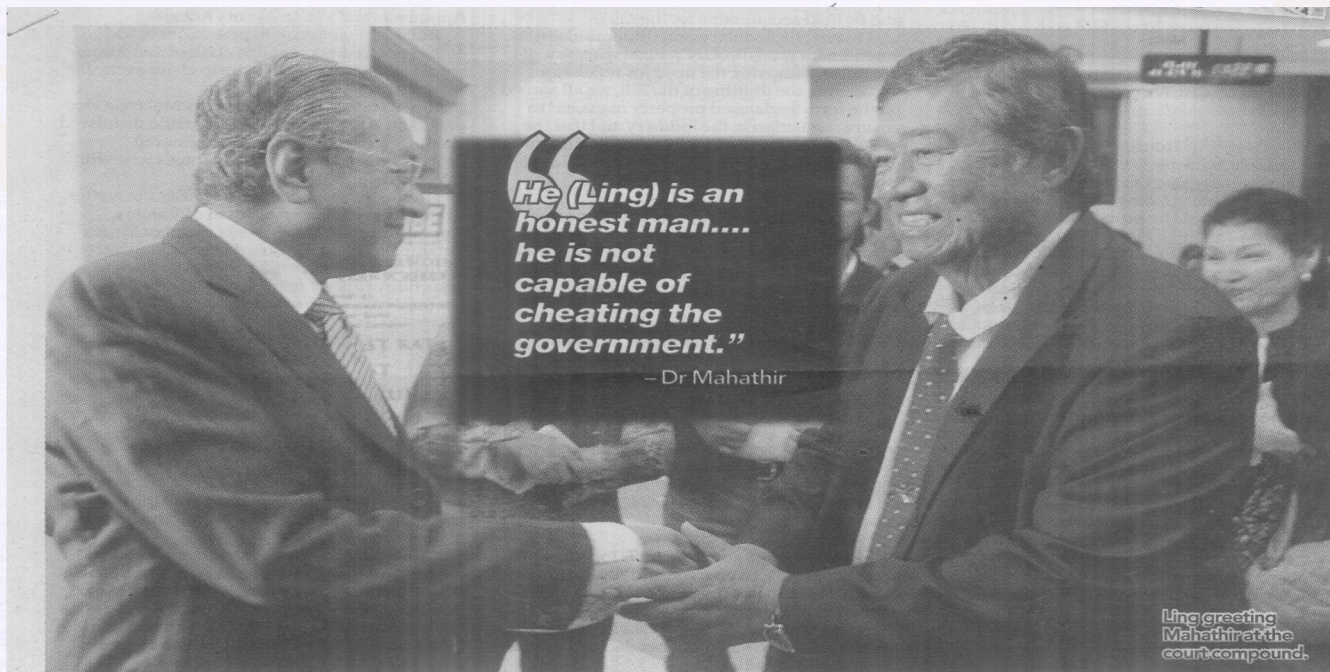


Newspaper	The Sun
Date	10/10/2012



# Ling wants charges dropped

The Sun - 10/10/2012

BY PAULINE WONG  
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Former transport minister Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik, who is on trial in connection with the Port Klang Free Zone (PKFZ) scandal, will ask the attorney-general to reconsider all three charges against him.

Ling's lead counsel Wong Kian Kheong told the High Court yesterday the defence will be

sending a letter of representation to the Attorney-General's Chambers for reconsideration in the light of the testimony of former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad over the last two days.

Mahathir, 87, who was also finance minister from 2001 to 2003 when the 1,000-acre Pulau Indah land for the PKFZ project was finalised, had earlier testified that he was not cheated by Ling in respect of the land buy.

Asked whether, as prime minister and fi-

nance minister at the material time, he felt he had been misled, cheated or deceived by Ling over the purchase of the land, Mahathir replied: "Personally, I don't think so."

Mahathir also told the court he had not received any complaint from other ministers that Ling had deceived or misled them.

He said Ling, who was his cabinet colleague of more than 15 years, had performed his duties

TURN TO PAGE 04 ►

## Dr M: Ling performed his duties well

► FROM FRONT PAGE

as a minister well.

"As far as I know, he (Ling) is an honest man," said Mahathir.

Asked by Wong if he thought Ling was capable of cheating the government, Mahathir replied: "No, he is not capable of cheating the government."

Lead prosecutor Datuk Tun Majid Tun Hamzah objected to the question.

"How would the ex-PM know if (Ling) could cheat the government? Only he (Ling) would know if he is capable of cheating the government!" Tun Majid said, raising his voice as Ling's supporters booed him.

Justice Datuk Ahmad Asnawi then adjourned the hearing and set Dec 4 for case mention, pending the outcome of the defence's representation to the AG's Cham-

bers to drop the charges against Ling, who is also former MCA president.

Ling, 69, is accused of failing to reveal facts regarding an interest of 7.5% per year, in addition to the cost of the land which was priced at RM25 psf.

Ling is also accused of intentionally concealing the actual land price of RM21 psf "special value" as stated in the Land Valuation and Property Services Department (JPPH) report dated Sept 29, 2000.

He faces one principal charge and two alternative charges under Sections 417 and 418 of the Penal Code of deceiving the cabinet by withholding details of the terms and conditions agreed between land owners Kuala Dimensi Sdn Bhd and the Port Klang Authority.