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# Dr M's silence on DEIG shows 'selective bias'

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KUALA LUMPUR: Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's silence over the Darul Ehsan Investment Group (DEIG) scandal shows he is selective in his criticisms, said Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Seri Salleh Said Keruak.



Salleh said the lack of comment from Dr Mahathir on DEIG, unlike the barrage of comments against Malaysia Development Bhd (IMDB), revealed the former prime minister's vendetta against Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

"Strange (for Dr Mahathir to be quiet on the matter). He is more interested in (trying to) topple Najib," said Salleh in a text message to the *New Straits Times* yesterday.

Controversy over the formation of Selangor's latest investment arm is growing as DEIG is poised to manage up to RM30 billion worth of state assets, with no governing enactment or state legislative assembly committees to oversee it.

Critics from across the political divide have questioned the setting up of DEIG, leading to Selangor Menteri Besar Azmin

Ali announcing that a white paper on the matter would be presented at the state assembly's next sitting in November.

Salleh said the public could see Dr Mahathir's intentions in attacking Najib, which was said to take place after the prime minister did not accede to his demands, including the construction of the "crooked bridge" to replace the Johor Causeway.

SaUeh said that when Dr Mahathir was in power, he would have been the first to question cases similar to DEIG.

"He is too personal in his attacks against Najib. The public can read his (Dr Mahathir's) mind (intentions)"

Political analyst Professor Datuk Dr Zainal Kling said those with vested interests would always choose fights in line with their cause.

He said Dr Mahathir, just like DAP publicity secretary Tony Pua, was previously critical of IMDB.

"This concerns Dr Mahathir as well. His crusade against Najib is undoubtedly personal. Hence, Dr Mahathir opts to be quiet when it comes to real issues, such as DEIG, which he has nothing to gain from.

"Just like Pua. Both of them (Dr Mahathir and Pua) were especially loud on IMDB. If you are truly honest in your cause, you will spare no quarter to anyone, regardless of political affiliations or leanings."