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'Dr M must apologise to all'

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'VICTIM': Ex-PM had abused his power in office, claims Nalla

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TUN Dr Mahathir Mohamad has been urged to issue a public apology to all Malaysians for allegedly abusing his power during his 22-year tenure as prime minister.

Malaysian Indian United Party (MIUP) president Tan Sri S. Nallakaruppan, in making the call, claimed that Dr Mahathir was personally responsible for the jailing of his political enemies, including PKR de facto leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

"Dr Mahathir was the one who put Anwar and many others in (jail). And, I am one of the men affected during Dr Mahathir's time (in power).

"He must come out and apologise to the people who were af-



**Tan Sri S.
Nallakaruppan**



**Tun Dr Mahathir
Mohamad**



**Datuk Seri Anwar
Ibrahim**

fect, as well as to the people of Malaysia," he said during a press conference at the MIUP headquarters here.

Anwar, who served as deputy prime minister from 1993 to 1998, was sacked by Dr Mahathir in 1998 and subsequently charged with sodomy and corruption.

Nallakaruppan claimed that Dr Mahathir had used the now-repealed Internal Security Act (ISA) to imprison "many" people, adding that he was also a victim of Dr Mahathir's alleged transgressions.

He said even after Dr Mahathir's resignation as prime minister in 2003, the latter had continued to

meddle in the nation's affairs by calling for his successor, Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, to step down.

"Now, he is doing the same thing to (Prime Minister) Datuk Seri Najib (Razak). I think among all the prime ministers, Najib is the most patient.

"During Dr Mahathir's time as prime minister, whenever someone spoke (against him), he would use the ISA to imprison them," he said, citing DAP adviser Lim Kit Siang's detention under ISA in 1987 as an example.

Nallakaruppan pointed out that despite his past actions, Dr Ma-

hathir was willing to work with Anwar, Lim and other opposition leaders for the sake of ousting Najib from power.

"He wants his son (Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir) to become prime minister.

"But, he should do it the proper way by getting his son and new party to contest in the next general election.

"The fact that Dr Mahathir was willing to shake hands with Anwar shows that he has no dignity or principles.

"If Anwar listens to Dr Mahathir and works with him, he, too, has no principles."

Dr Mahathir made heads turn on Sept 5 when he arrived at the High Court here to "show support" for Anwar's suit to strike out the National Security Council Act 2016.

The long-time political foes, having met for the first time in 18 years, proceeded to shake hands and spoke privately for half an hour.

"I would like to advise Anwar to be careful with Dr Mahathir.

"Even his daughter, Nurul Nuha, said Dr Mahathir must apologise (to her father)," said Nallakaruppan.