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# RAHMAN BLAMES DR M FOR IMDB'S WOES

Ex-premier's lies  
caused investors to  
lose confidence,  
says minister

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INVESTORS lost confidence in the Malaysia Development Bhd's (IMDB) initial public offering (IPO) of Edra Global Energy Bhd because of scathing attacks by former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Abdul Rahman Dahlan said IMDB was debt-ridden because of this.

Rahman said IMDB's problems started when it was unable to be listed and Dr Mahathir must have

known it would face complications.

"When IMDB couldn't be publicly listed, it had to make loans to support its current loans. In early 2015, when the problem turned for the worse, IMDB had to sell its land.

"It had to make ends meet," he said at a "Ceramah Rakyat" event in Taman Bunga Raya, Bukit Beruntung, on Saturday.

It is the first in a nationwide roadshow organised by Barisan Nasional to explain government policies to the people.

Present were Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Minister Tan Sri Noh Omar, Plantation Industries and Commodities Minister Datuk Mah Siew Keong, Deputy Education Minister Datuk P. Kamalanathan and Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri S.K. Devamany.

Dr Mahathir used such issues to confuse the people, particularly those in rural areas, Rahman added.

He said the opposition's attacks on

the country's economic standing could scare investors away and in turn sabotage the economy.

He said former deputy prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and former rural and regional development minister Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal were "hypocrites" for questioning Putrajaya when the IMDB issue escalated.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak was transparent and forthcoming when it came to money matters, unlike Dr Mahathir.

Dr Mahathir started to openly oppose IMDB in 2014. The company had blamed him and media reports for its failed IPO.

Rahman lambasted DAP adviser Lim Kit Siang for insisting that the country was going bankrupt.

"I worry that the attacks will threaten the economy," he said. "Investors will run away and all of us will be affected by it. We can't let them spread lies about our economy."

Rahman added that opposition



Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Abdul Rahman Dahlan speaking at the 'Ceramah Rakyat' event in Taman Bunga Raya, Bukit Beruntung, on Saturday. PIC BY MOHD YUSNI ARIFFIN

leaders like Lim, DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng, its publicity director Tony Pua and PKR vice-president Rafizi Ramli could continue with their political attacks but not to the point that it could sabotage the country.

He said such allegations should be

dealt with using the full force of the law.

Rahman, who is also BN strategic communications director, said the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank had reported Malaysia's economy was resilient, strong and far from bankrupt.

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