

# Dr M: I heard only rumours

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## 'I have not received any confirmation that King will abdicate'

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad says he has not received any official confirmation or indication that the Yang di-Pertuan Agong will abdicate the throne.

"Like you, I heard rumours. I have not received any letter or any official indication about anything.

"So I am not going to talk about all this," the Prime Minister told a press conference after chairing the Pakatan Harapan presidential council meeting here yesterday.

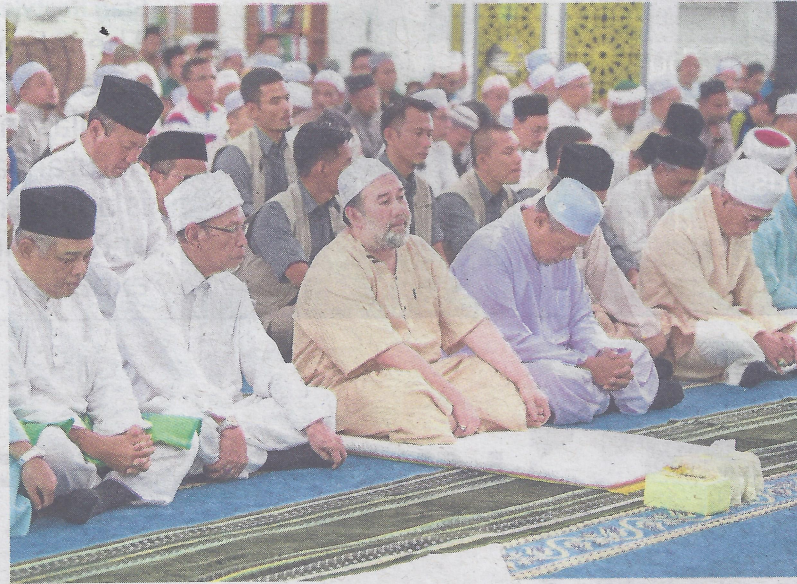
Dr Mahathir was asked to respond to speculation on social media concerning the tenure of Sultan Muhammad V as the 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

Asked if the King, who began his reign on Dec 13, 2016, had officially returned to work after his two-month leave ended last Dec 31, Dr Mahathir replied: "As far as I know."

On whether the Conference of Rulers could appoint an acting Yang di-Pertuan Agong for the current term, Dr Mahathir said this was up to the Rulers to decide.

Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah of Perak, who is the Deputy Yang di-Pertuan Agong, carried out the duties of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong when Sultan Muhammad V was on leave.

On Thursday, Kelantan Deputy Menteri Besar Datuk Mohd Amar Nik Abdullah asked the Attorney General's Chambers to clamp down on what he termed as fake news on



**Fulfilling duties:** Sultan Muhammad V attending Friday prayers at Masjid Al Sultan Ismail Petra in Kubang Kerian. — Bernama

social media involving Sultan Muhammad V, the Kelantan monarch.

During the absence of Sultan Muhammad V, there were also foreign media reports and photographs claiming that the King had married a former Russian beauty queen in Moscow.

Istana Negara has, however, not confirmed or denied news of the wedding ceremony.

Meanwhile, Sultan Muhammad V attended Friday prayers at Masjid Al Sultan Ismail Petra in Kubang Kerian, Kota Baru, yesterday.

The King was greeted by Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Ahmad Yakob, Kelantan mufti Datuk Mohamad Shukri Mohamad, state executive councillors and state government officials.

About 2,000 people attended the prayers led by imam Ustaz Abdul Bari Abdullah.

Watch the video  
[thestartv.com](http://thestartv.com)

