

PM to get ministers' report cards at Cabinet meeting

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PETALING JAYA: The first Cabinet meeting of 2020 will be held tomorrow with most ministers expected to present their report card of the past year.

"Some ministries have made known their report card but this is the opportunity for the ministers themselves to tell the Prime Minister what they did in the past 12 months and take questions from him," said

one source.

The Education Ministry was the first to make public its report card on Dec 13.

It is believed that only two ministries have yet to submit their 2019 report card to Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

On the resignation of Dr Maszlee Malik as Education Minister last week, several ministers said they would not be querying Dr Mahathir about it.

"I do not think an explanation on

the resignation or a replacement for the post will be required or requested," said Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Redzuan Yusof.

Foreign Minister Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah said he would not raise the issue.

However, several MPs had a different view.

Klang MP Charles Santiago and Petaling Jaya MP Maria Chin Abdullah said that Cabinet ministers should not shy away from dis-

cussing it with the Prime Minister.

"My view is that Dr Mahathir and Pakatan Harapan leaders should discuss the appointment and make a decision quickly," Santiago said, adding that this was because issues about schools had become highly controversial in the past year, resulting in a divided society.

Maria said the portfolio was an important one and the ministers should discuss it.

Otherwise, the speculation would rage on for as long as the vacancy is

not filled, she said.

Another item on the agenda tomorrow is a presentation on the possible government buyover of tolled highways by the Finance Ministry.

"Last week, the Finance Ministry requested input from the Works Ministry on these possible buyovers. We have passed them all the reports and analyses on each of the tolled highways, along with options and permutations," said a source from the Works Ministry.

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