

IGP: No reports lodged against Dr Mahathir

KUALA LUMPUR: Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Razarudin Husain said no reports have been lodged against former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad in connection with the Royal Commission of Inquiry's (RCI) findings on the Batu Puteh, Middle Rocks and South Ledge issue.

"No reports have been received," he said after the launch of a book titled *Royal Malaysia Police: History of Establishment, Sacrifices and Successes in Preserving National Peace* by Professor Dr Mohamad Thariq Hameed Sultan and Shafie Abdul Rahman.

Sultan of Perak Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah graced the event.

On Dec 5, the RCI on Batu Puteh, Middle Rocks and South Ledge recommended that a criminal investigation be initiated against Dr Mahathir.

This was included in the 271-page declassified report presented to Parliament.

According to the RCI, Dr Mahathir could face criminal charges under Section 415(b) of the Penal Code, which could lead to penalties under Section 417 and Section 418 of the same code.

The RCI proposed that the commission's secretary file a police report to enable the investigation to proceed.

On another matter, Razarudin said the investigation into Roger Ng, a former banker and key fig-

ure in the 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) financial scandal, was still underway.

He said police needed more information in the case.

"The investigation is ongoing. He is still under observation.

"We still need some information, particularly on documentary evidence. There are many things to review.

"It is not just one or two documents, but a substantial amount of evidence (to examine)."

On Monday, former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak's defence team said it would file an application with the High Court to interview Ng.

Najib's lead counsel, Tan Sri Muhammad Shafee Abdullah,

said the application would be filed before Court of Appeal judge Datuk Collin Lawrence Sequerah, who is presiding over Najib's corruption trial for misappropriating billions of 1MDB funds in the High Court.

Ng, who is facing a 10-year prison term in the United States in connection with the 1MDB case, was returned to Malaysia on Oct 8 last year to face related charges.

At the book launch, Razarudin said the book was a valuable reference that could inspire society to be more patriotic.

He said the force's resilience over more than two centuries was rooted in their unwavering loyalty to king and country, a prin-

ciple deeply ingrained in the hearts of every policeman.

"This spirit of loyalty is the cornerstone of the force's enduring strength as the nation's oldest and most prominent enforcement agency that is always ready to shoulder the responsibility of being the frontline defence against any emerging security threats.

"The history of the force's service offers lessons on the importance of loyalty, discipline, bravery and strong synergy in facing challenging situations.

"Through history, we gain a deeper understanding of our duties and responsibilities in building a harmonious and resilient society," he said in his speech.