

Dr Mahathir: Why interrogate me like a common criminal?

PUTRAJAYA: Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad is questioning why he is being interrogated “like a common criminal” by the police merely for voicing his opinion.

He claimed that this has occurred up to 10 times over the years.

The two-time former prime minister also asked why his statement concerning the loyalty of Indian and Chinese Malaysians towards the country was being investigated when many others making remarks on 3R issues (race, religion and royalty) were



Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad

not investigated. He said he was being selectively targeted because there were others mentioned in the Pandora and Panama Papers who remain free with no investigations.

“I don’t see what I did wrong. I have a right to have my own stance and opinion. I will answer (more) in court when my case is brought to court.

“I’m not complaining... it’s their (the police) right to question me, but why am I the only one being questioned? My name is not in

the Pandora or Panama Papers, so why am I being investigated?

“Today, they asked me around 19 questions and I can answer some, such as where and when the interview was. When they played the recording (of the interview), I said I will answer (more) in court when my case is brought to court,” he said yesterday.

Dr Mahathir said this after having his statement recorded at the Perdana Leadership Foundation over his controversial remarks concerning the loyalty of the Indian and Chinese communities to the country during an interview with an online news channel from India. The recording of his statement took about 50 min-

utes.

Dr Mahathir said he was a law-abiding citizen who would answer queries by the police as long as it was not against the law.

“Tuns have it much worse as we can’t even say anything (without being investigated). I want to ask; can I state my opinion or not?

“Statements by others which are more racist are okay, but when I make a statement, there will be police reports lodged and I will be questioned,” he added.

Dr Mahathir had also expressed dissatisfaction that the statutory declaration by former police chief inspector Azilah Hadri, who is facing the death penalty over the murder of Altantuya Shaari-ibu, was not investigated de-

spite him revealing that a politician had ordered a person to be killed. He added that he was also worried that the police were being used by politicians to commit crime and make illegal arrests.

“I am sad that there are policemen now who are involved in crimes. I hope the police are not disturbed by politicians to commit crimes.

“It is very important because the police are set up to protect the citizens, but when the police are committing crimes, we are scared that they may be asked to arrest people without charge,” he said.

Earlier, Dr Mahathir arrived at 2.35pm along with his escorts.

A team of three policemen arrived in a car just before 3pm.