

MAS should be privatised, says Dr Mahathir
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National flag carrier Malaysia Airlines (MAS) should be privatised as it is running at a loss, said Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad (pic).

"My experience with Proton is that after it was privatised, the new operators were very concerned about profits and losses as their earnings were at stake," he said.

However, Dr Mahathir said when it was the government's money which was involved, no one seemed to care.

"MAS has been operating for so long and has experienced many turnarounds, but they were all in vain."

Dr Mahathir said he strongly believes in privatisation as those who run the operations will be the ones who will be held accountable.

"I have run a government company before and usually, the main concern there is to create employment. No attention is paid to proper management," Dr Mahathir said during a press conference at his Hari Raya open house at Seri Kembangan today.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department and former MAS chief Datuk Seri Idris Jala had said that Putrajaya should consider selling the flag carrier but not at a loss.

He said MAS was trading at RM6 when he was at the helm but currently the share price has tanked to 30 sen.

The government's state asset manager Khazanah Nasional Bhd is the majority owner of MAS, which has posted losses for its last six quarterly results. - August 18, 2013.

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