

Dr M refuses to take questions on politics, 1MDB
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By Elizabeth Zachariah

Despite having a reputation for being outspoken, Tun Dr Mahathir refused to answer questions from journalists about politics and controversial state investor 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) at a press conference in Serdang today.

The former prime minister, who is a strong critic of the state investment vehicle, remain tight-lipped when asked to comment about the investigation by the Auditor-General into its finances following reports of irregularities.

Speaking at a press conference after the signing of a partnership between Perdana University and the University of California San Diego, he said that he would only answer questions related to the varsity and the healthcare system.

"No, it (1MDB) is not related to this," Dr Mahathir, who is also Perdana's chancellor, said with a wave of his hand.

"I will answer this some other time. Let us focus on health issues and Perdana now."

Dr Mahathir repeated this several times at the press conference after other attempts were made to ask the former prime minister his thoughts on the investigation.

Journalists later flocked to Dr Mahathir and asked questions about a report in The Malaysian Insider this morning over a survey which found that most Malaysians would prefer Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein as the next prime minister.

"No. No. I won't answer that. I will talk to you some other time," he said.

This was after Perdana's board of governors' chairman Tan Sri Dr Mohan Swami told journalists to keep the questions related to the event.

"That's right," Dr Mahathir added. – March 11, 2015.

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