

Najib answerable to the public, says Pak Lah
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Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak is answerable to the people as it is his responsibility as prime minister, says his predecessor Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi in a reaction to the ongoing criticism by Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad against the current prime minister.

"Najib will decide. He will know what he has to do (as) he must do something about it," Abdullah told reporters today on Najib's silence in the face of severe criticism by former prime minister Dr Mahathir.

He added that Najib also had to decide as to whether he should resign or stay.

"That is a decision he has to make. He will decide what to do.

"Because he is the prime minister, anybody who is the prime minister has the responsibility to tell the people," Abdullah said after opening a seminar on biodiversity and conservation in Kuala Lumpur.

Abdullah, who has also been on the receiving end of Dr Mahathir's criticism when he was prime minister, was initially reluctant to answer questions from the press on Umno's internal crisis which has seen pressure piling on Najib to account for allegations involving strategic investment fund 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB), his cash handout policy under BR1M, the murder of Mongolian national Altantuya Shaaribuu, and spending habits of his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor.

On Dr Mahathir's suggestion that Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin could be a suitable candidate to replace Najib, Abdullah said Dr Mahathir could say whatever he wanted to.

"It is up to him what he wants to say," said the former Kepala Batas MP, who is popularly known as Pak Lah.

Abdullah said what was happening now did not bring any benefit to the country and everyone should concentrate on doing their jobs.

He added that Najib should not keep silent over the problems raised by Dr Mahathir, but said it was up to the both of them on their next course of action. – April 28, 2015.

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