

Yes, I am behind 1MDB 'crisis', says Dr M
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Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad admitted today he was behind the crisis surrounding debt-ridden 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB), saying it was simply because he had chosen to go public with his complaints.

Dr Mahathir said he chose to speak out on 1MDB's "wrongdoings" because no other person dared to do so, and to keep silent would lead to Barisan Nasional's loss at the next election.

"Prime minister says Dr M (that's me) is behind the crisis," said Dr Mahathir in his latest blog post on chedet.cc today.

"I will admit that I am behind the 'crisis'. I am behind it because there is a climate of fear in this country."

He claimed many were aware of the "loss of billions of ringgit by 1MDB", but were too afraid of the consequences should they voice their concerns.

"So they come to tell me. And they ask me to 'do something'."

He said he had desisted at first because he did not want Najib to be questioned, but attempts to reach the prime minister privately yielded no results.

"So I had to go public. Najib has destroyed Umno and BN. I know he would lose the next election. And then the whole country will see turmoil as no party would have the majority to run the country.

"The opposition cannot because they would be quarrelling among themselves. A Pakatan government would be weak and unstable," said Dr Mahathir, referring to opposition coalition Pakatan Rakyat.

He said the country would turn into anarchy without a strong government and the crisis that would accompany it would be worse.

"So I decided to expose the wrongdoings of 1MDB of which the prime minister is effectively the head."

Najib in his latest blog post said the former prime minister was behind the "mess" in the country because of his attacks and echoing of "opposition lies and slander".

He also accused Dr Mahathir of "insinuations, speaking half-truths, cracking misleading jokes and twisting statements to make his views exciting and palatable".

"Was there a debt of RM42 billion? Yes. Was the money missing? No. But the spin had begun," Najib said on the question-and-answer section of his blog.

But Dr Mahathir insisted today that billions of ringgit had disappeared and that people too afraid to come forward had seen evidence of the loss.

“By accusing me of being responsible for the crisis, Najib is saying let us accept the disappearance of the billions of ringgit and behave as if nothing wrong has been done.

“From the interest and concern shown by the people over the losses suffered by 1MDB, the matter cannot just be ignored. The people responsible must be investigated and if found guilty, they must be punished.”

1MDB is currently being investigated by Bank Negara, Public Accounts Committee and also the auditor-general after accumulating debts of RM42 billion in just six years since its inception. – June 11, 2015.

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