

**Pro-Mahathir businessmen donated to opposition parties, says blog
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Businessmen aligned with Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad allegedly gave money to opposition parties in the 13th general election, claimed an open letter in an Umno blog, as the debate rages over the RM2.6 billion donated to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

The letter, published in MyKMU.NET, a blog which leans towards Najib, accused Najib's harshest Umno critic, former prime minister Dr Mahathir, of being blind to the businessmen's actions.

The letter claimed that tycoon Tan Sri Vincent Tan, who is known to be close to Dr Mahathir, had donated RM400 million to opposition parties that were in the former Pakatan Rakyat (PR) alliance.

Other billionaires deemed close to Dr Mahathir, such as Tan Sri Yeoh Tiong Lay and Tan Sri Syed Mokhtar Al-Bukhary, are also suspected to have donated to the now defunct PR, the letter's author Amin Yatim, wrote.

The writer also claimed that Tan, who heads the Berjaya Group, had given close to RM1 billion to PR parties since 2008.

"Tell us Dr Mahathir, true or not, Tan Sri Vincent Tan, your most loved businessman and who had hosted your James Bond-themed birthday party recently, had donated close to RM400 million to (PR) in the 2013 elections?"

"I am disappointed that Tun would attack Najib for spending all this money to ensure a BN victory but (you) would close your eyes when your cronies contributed to BN's rivals in the 2013 elections," Amin wrote.

The letter comes amid an intense public debate over a RM2.6 billion political donation that was transferred into Najib's personal accounts just before the 2013 elections.

Amin was writing in a response to Dr Mahathir's blog post on August 3 in which the former premier said that during his time, political donations were not put into his personal account.

Dr Mahathir claimed that donations for the party were put into an account which had three trustees, of which he was one.

"Why was all this put into Umno's accounts? Why a trustee account? You (Dr Mahathir) know the answer and the problems.

"You think you are the only one who is trustworthy and everyone else is a cheat even though the fact remains that it was during your time that billions in Umno assets went missing," Amin wrote.

He also chastised Dr Mahathir for attacking Najib even though the latter had helped him his post in the party elections of 1987, where Dr Mahathir was almost defeated.

“What Tun has done these past months is very saddening. Not only are you not acting like a statesman, you can’t even be a friend.

“What is even worse is that you cannot even be a good party member just like how you used to tell us to be when you were prime minister.” – August 5, 2015.

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