

No point having political funding committee, says Dr Mahathir
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Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad today dismissed the need for a national committee to plan political funding regulations as announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak last Friday.

"It's not about setting up committees, so no need to set up committees.

"Even if (they) investigate him (Najib), it will be thrown out," Dr Mahathir said, when asked by reporters to comment on Putrajaya's move to address political funding.

Najib's announcement of the committee comes amid national scandals involving his brainchild 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB), which is owned by the Finance Ministry, and controversy surrounding the RM2.6 billion he received in his personal bank accounts, which are said to be a political donation held in trust for his party, Umno.

Speaking during a public lecture at Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP) in Seri Iskandar earlier, Dr Mahathir said the failure or success of a nation depended on the value system by which it abided.

In an apparent reference to debt-ridden 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) and the RM2.6 billion donation in Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak's account, Mahathir said feeling apathy towards these issues spelled ruin for the country.

"If you think, well, this will happen, so what, 40 million dollars lost, it is okay, not my money anyway... if that is the culture, then this country has gone to the dogs.

"If you think, receiving money is okay, you can accept it, why not... if that is your attitude, then the society you live in will be a very poor society," he told the audience which comprised students, lecturers and the public.

Dr Mahathir, who is a chancellor at UTP, was speaking on "Social Evolution in Malaysia: What Next?" – August 19, 2015.

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