

Zaid says absolutely inviting Dr M to March 27 gathering

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Datuk Zaid Ibrahim (pictured) confirmed he would definitely invite Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad to attend his March 27 rally against Putrajaya. — Picture by Saw Siow Feng

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 25 — Datuk Zaid Ibrahim today said Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad will be among the first to be invited to the March 27 gathering against Putrajaya, after the former prime minister expressed willingness to attend if asked.

The former de facto law minister added that invitations will also be extended to others with a wish to see key government and law enforcement officials step down to allow an “independent and thorough” investigation on 1Malaysia Development Bhd.

“Tun Mahathir is on top of my list of course. I will issue the invitations in due time. They maybe politicians or social activists. Or community leaders,” Zaid told *Malay Mail Online* when contacted today.

“The speakers will be selected amongst those who wish to see complete reforms in our political body so that our national institutions are secure. The rule of law must be protected,” he added.

Zaid announced the event in response to Attorney-General Tan Sri Mohd Apandi Ali’s decision to close the cases on the movement of RM42 million from SRC International and the RM2.6 billion deposited in Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak’s accounts in 2013.

Dr Mahathir yesterday said he would participate if invited, after he was questioned by police over a blog post criticising Apandi over the same issue.

Earlier today, the DAP said it has not received any invitation to participate in the March 27 gathering.

DAP national organising secretary Anthony Loke Siew Fook said that the party will only decide whether or not to join the gathering if they receive an invite.

Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar has cautioned Zaid against proceeding with the rally, with Zaid in turn telling the federal police chief to be professional in the execution of his duties.

Zaid also clarified later to say that the March 27 event was not a rally, but “a gathering of leaders in a closed door setting” to express their desire to see the rule of law upheld.

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