

Dr Mahathir stays mum, up to police to consider arrest
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By Muzliza Mustafa

Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he would leave it to the police to decide if he should be arrested, after a team from Bukit Aman arrived at his office in Kuala Lumpur today to question him over his criticism of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

"It is up to them," he told reporters before leaving his office at the Al-Bukhary Foundation at 1.15pm.

At 10.40am today, a police team arrived to question Dr Mahathir over statements against the country's leadership and other related issues, including remarks he made at the Bersih 4 rally in August.

Asked if he should be worried of getting arrested, Dr Mahathir shrugged off the question and said: "It is up to them".

Asked further about which section of the law he was being investigated, he merely said: "I don't know."

The former prime minister said that despite the ongoing investigations, he would still remain an Umno member.

On the police questioning today, he said that the police asked him questions which he did not answer.

"They asked questions and I said I will not answer. I don't censor anything," he said.

It was reported earlier that the police team, led by Supt Azham Othman posed 45 questions to Dr Mahathir.

His legal team, led by Haniff Khatri Abdulla said that the police spent about 45 minutes questioning the former prime minister.

He said the session started at 11am and ended 45 minutes later.

"Whatever he needed to say or wanted to say was said during the questioning and that should be enough for the police," Haniff said.

The authorities had opened several investigation papers after police reports were made against Dr Mahathir, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi had said last month.

These investigations were related to Section 500 of the Penal Code for defamation.

Dr Mahathir, 90, has been Najib's staunch critic for the longest time and has openly

asked the prime minister to step down over his alleged "failure" to govern the country as well as over the debt-ridden 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) scandal.

Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar was also reported as saying that police would question Dr Mahathir over comments he made at the Bersih 4 rally in August.

The former leader made brief appearances at the two-day protest organised by the Coalition for Clean and Fair Elections, better known as Bersih 2.0. – November 6, 2015

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