

## **Dr M promises to reduce corruption level to minimum**

**BERNAMA**

**11/03/2018**

KUALA LUMPUR, May 11 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has promised to reduce the corruption in the country to a 'very minimum level'.

He said this was because the new Pakatan Harapan government acknowledged that corruption, especially political corruption, had badly affected the democratic process.

Dr Mahathir said the new government was aware that it was impossible to completely erase corruption practices in the country.

"For example, the (14th general) election should have been free and clean but we find that this election was not clean at all. People were being bought."

"The country's constituencies boundaries were changed, all these things are worse than gerrymandering. It is really to favour the government (previous government)," he said at a special press conference here, today.

Also present were the four leaders of Pakatan Harapan parties.

Dr Mahathir said that the government will study the redelineation exercise by the previous government before the 14th general election took place on May 9.

"Where possible we will change back to the original boundaries and if we have a two thirds majority we will take into consideration, the different distribution of people, the numbers of people in each constituency," he said.

On that note, he said the government will also look into whether the Election Commission chairman was involved in corrupted practices or being biased.

Dr Mahathir added that the government would also study whether the Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission (MACC) had been fair or not.

"If we find that they are biased or in favour of any group including ourselves we will have to change them and as we promised the new major heads of government would be vetted by Parliament."

"To a question whether the new government will look into the 1MDB investigation which was cleared by the Attorney-General, Dr Mahathir said the government is looking into the matter."

"We have to look into who the Attorney-General is. At the moment the Attorney-General has undermined his own credibility. He in fact has hidden evidence of wrongdoing and that is wrong in law."

"We have to do what is permitted by the laws of this country. For that, we will have to consult the administrators and the lawyers to find out whether what we do is in keeping to the provisions of the law of this country, but our intention is to go for people who have shown a tendency to be corrupt or who had committed known corruption," he said.

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