

PM denies govt not taking action against previous leaders

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PETALING JAYA, Sept 7 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad refuted allegations that the government failed to take actions against previous government leaders found committing criminal offences.

According to him, the government is taking firm actions against leaders of the previous government involved in crimes but they take time to collect strong evidence prior to bringing them to court.

"Some thought the government is not taking firm actions against leaders of the old government involved in crimes and I would like to clarify that we are complying with the law, so the government needed strong evidence before bringing them to court.

"This is a slow process and many involved in corruption comprised leaders of the previous government and it appeared as if there were no actions taken against them," he told a media conference after chairing a Pakatan Harapan Presidential Council meeting here today.

Also present were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Wan Azizah Wan Ismail as well as Bersatu, PKR Amanah and DAP top leaders.

Dr Mahathir said the government was focusing on cases with strong evidence which would lead to conviction when brought to court.

"We are focusing on major cases which require strong evidence but also smaller cases which involved other leaders in the old administration," he said.

In another development related to a court case involving Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, Dr

Mahathir said many more charges would levelled against the former prime minister.

According to Dr Mahathir, the investigations involving the former prime minister's case is taking a long time because of the lack of cooperation from people who knew the facts of the case.

"Sometimes we don't get the full cooperation from people who knew the facts and sometimes it is difficult to get the documents to back the allegations made," he said.

Meanwhile at the same media conference, Defence Minister Mohamad Sabu said the case involving three Armed Forced personnel becoming escorts for former Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein was still under investigation.

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