

MACC probes against UMNO leaders over criminal conduct - Dr Mahathir

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PUTRAJAYA, Nov 21 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad says the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC)'s investigations against UMNO leaders is not because they are from the party but over criminal conduct.

He said the MACC had to investigate thousands of cases that occurred during the former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak's administration.

"We cannot handle 1,000 cases a day. We can only focus on the big cases and they involve UMNO (leaders).

"That is why we take action against the person, not because he is from UMNO but because he committed a crime," he said when asked whether the MACC was carrying out selective investigations targeting UMNO over alleged corruptions.

Dr Mahathir said this in a press conference after chairing the Special Cabinet Committee on Anti-Corruption meeting at Perdana Putra here today.

Meanwhile, Dr Mahathir said the MACC could reopen the case involving the purchase of Scorpene submarine by Malaysia worth RM4.67 billion if it had enough evidence of hanky panky.

Asked if he knew the MACC had reopened the case of the purchase of Scorpene, he said that he was unaware of the matter.

The media reported that Najib was present at the MACC headquarters on Monday to give statement pertaining to the purchase of Scorpene.

Meanwhile, Dr Mahathir said the MACC would investigate allegations that a ministry had given eight out of 10 contracts directly to a minister's son.

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