

Waytha Moorthy now a changed man - Dr Mahathir

BERNAMA

22/11/2018

SERDANG, Nov 22 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Minister in the Prime Minister's Department P. Waytha Moorthy is now a changed man.

Dr Mahathir said Waytha Moorthy, who is now in the government, no longer holds on to what he had said before.

Commenting on a petition calling for the Hindraf leader to step down following a widely re-circulated 2011 video clip in which he claimed there were serious human rights violations in Malaysia, Dr Mahathir said Waytha Moorthy should be given the opportunity to do his job.

He said people can put up a petition against Waytha Moorthy but it is not a directive for the minister to resign.

"We have all our own backgrounds, just like I used to be in UMNO, so does that mean just because I was in UMNO I can't join Pakatan Harapan.

"At that time (of the recording) he was very disappointed and he made a statement to show to foreigners that there was no fairness and justice in Malaysia," he said when met by the media after opening the Malaysia Agriculture, Horticulture and Agrotourism Exhibition (MAHA) 2018 at the Malaysia Agro Exposition Park Serdang (MAEPS) here today.

"Like people used to call me 'maha zalim' (most evil) but now they accept this tyrant as a leader, so people can change according to the times," he said.

As of Tuesday, the online petition calling for Wathya Moorthy to be sacked initiated by the Gerakan Pengundi Sedar (GPS) has garnered 151,171 signatures.

Commenting on Waytha Moorthy's move to appoint Hindraf members as his officers which did not reflect racial diversity, Dr Mahathir said the minister had the right to appoint anyone to assist him in carrying out his duties.

"He will appoint those he knows, he can't possibly appoint someone he doesn't know, and most of the people he knows are from Hindraf or the Indian community," he said.

Waytha Moorthy led Hindraf, a movement championing for a better future of the Malaysian Indian community, when he made the remarks in the video clip.

-- BERNAMA

© 2018 BERNAMA. All Rights Reserved. Disclaimer | Privacy Policy| Security Policy

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/en/news.php?id=1667644>