

| | | | |
|------------|---|-------------|---------------------|
| Headline | The Edge boss targeted over 1MDB reports, says Dr M | | |
| MediaTitle | New Straits Times | | |
| Date | 05 Feb 2015 | Color | Black/white |
| Section | Local News | Circulation | 149,000 |
| Page No | 9 | Readership | 447,000 |
| Language | English | ArticleSize | 179 cm ² |
| Journalist | N/A | AdValue | RM 3,237 |
| Frequency | Daily | PR Value | RM 9,711 |



'The Edge' boss targeted over 1MDB reports, says Dr M

KUALA LUMPUR: The Edge Media Group executive chairman Datuk Tong Kooi Ong is being targeted by certain quarters because of the group's negative reports on 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB).

Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday it was his opinion that Tong was being targeted by a blogger because the media under his group had been critical of 1MDB.

Therefore, he said, a thorough investigation needed to be conducted to find out if anyone was deliberately devaluing the ringgit.

"Investigate whether it is true. Because *The Edge* has criticised 1MDB a lot. This is what he (Tong) is now facing, accusations that he is betting against the ringgit."

Dr Mahathir said the last time the currency fell drastically, it was because of international traders.

"After that (investigations into whether Tong was responsible), we can investigate whether he has ties with (George) Soros," Dr Mahathir said, referring to the hedge fund manager he had blamed for the financial crisis that had hit Asia in the late 1990s.

Dr Mahathir was speaking after installing a plaque at the Forest Research Institute Malaysia to denote its status as a national heritage site.

Following this, non-governmental organ-

isation Pertubuhan Pakatan Setia 1Malaysia (PS1M) yesterday also urged the police to expose any individual attempting to sabotage the country's economy.

Its secretary, Zulkifli Sharif, said the organisation had lodged a police report to ensure that any party suspected of sabotaging the economy should be investigated.

"There are claims that some individuals have tried to devalue the ringgit to sabotage the country's economy," he said.

Zulkifli said if such attempts were successful, the country would feel the impact and the economy would be affected.

"Such activities should be curbed to avoid a major economic crisis.

"It has happened before, and we don't want it to happen again," he said at the Sentul police station yesterday.

About 10 members of the PS1M, including its president, Muhd Rodhi Abd Hamid, were at the police station to show their support.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak had said the government would take action against those who took advantage of the situation to sabotage the economy.

This was in reference to Tong's alleged involvement in manipulating the ringgit.

Tong has denied the claims and said he would take legal action against those making the allegations.