

MACC accused of diverting from AG in Ho Hup case

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The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission is only interested in tracing how documents linked to allegations of corruption and abuse of power against attorney-general Abdul Gani Patail leaked and not in the case itself.

In making this allegation, former Ho Hup managing director Low Tuck Choy said he got to learn about this after the MACC entered the company's premises last year.

Responding to the MACC's statement last Friday that it won't be calling Low to assist in the investigations, though it would welcome any further evidence in his possession from him, Low, who once headed one of Malaysia's largest construction companies, said this was proof enough that the commission was not serious about its probe.

"When the MACC officers went into Ho Hup, they asked our staff how come the documents were leaked.

"The MACC was not interested in investigating the allegations. For me, all the evidence is already up there in the public domain.

"After 10 months, the MACC should have finished its probe into the case but it is still pending," he told Malaysiakini.

Low, 54, said in his police report earlier this month that the documents that were uploaded in the Malaysia Today news portal are genuine.

The documents include an invoice from an electrical company, Ho Hup's payment voucher dated 2009 with Abdul Gani's name on it, for work on a bungalow in Seremban.

'We know who endorsed cheque'

For example, Low added, the company was aware who signed the cheque and who prepared the cash voucher for the electrical work carried out on the bungalow said to be linked to Abdul Gani.

The person who signed the cheque, Low said, has since left Ho Hup but he is traceable and the company had also filed a suit against him in connection with another case.

"Has MACC checked the electrical company? The address is there. Has it gone to investigate? I should not be telling this as the MACC is a seasoned investigator," he said.

It was alleged that Low's rival and former Ho Hup deputy executive chairperson, Vincent Lye, had sanctioned the payment of the sum from the company's coffers to finance the bungalow renovation.

In return, Abdul Gani is accused of having used his prosecutorial power to charge Low in a magistrate's court with four counts of failing to notify the changes in his interest in the company within seven days.

His wife was also investigated.

However, Abdul Gani denied owning any bungalow or property in Seremban when the question was put to him.

Low also questioned why Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department VK Liew's response in Parliament was different from MACC's.

He asked if the MACC is giving different answers to the deputy minister, misleading him or whether Liew himself was misleading Parliament.

Liew in fielding questions from Puchong MP Gobind Singh Deo said the MACC was still mulling the possibility of investigating claims that Abdul Gani had accepted bribes from a construction firm.

Low, who is the son of Ho Hup founder the late Low Chee, and his family still hold a substantial stake in the company. He said the company has also filed several suits against Lye.

After lodging his police reports last month, Low added, the commercial crime division recorded a statement from him.

Besides lodging reports with the police last month, Low also lodged reports with the MACC and the Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Ministry last year, but there has been no action.

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