

PKR queries 1MDB's RM7bil transfer to Caymans
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PKR has questioned the RM7 billion said to have been transferred by 1Malaysia Development Bhd's (1MDB) to an allegedly "secret account" in the Cayman Islands.

The information was revealed in 1MDB's annual report and also questioned in a report in the business weekly The Edge, said PKR strategic director Rafizi Ramli.

"(Incumbent Prime Minister) Najib Razak needs to answer immediately on the RM7 billion transfer, as he has full authority over 1MDB," he said in a statement today.

According to Rafizi (right), 1MDB had raised RM5 billion through government-guaranteed bonds for several investment ventures, for example Petro Saudi International (PSI) whose activities and origins he alleged were "dubious".

"From business dealings with PSI that has been shrouded in mystery, RM7 billion is reported to have been transferred to a secret account in the Cayman Islands," he said.

Rafizi said the transaction "went against principles of transparency and best practices that ought to be observed by a government investment body like 1MDB".

"I fear that should BN lose in the coming general election, the RM7 billion will disappear without a trace, meaning the government would have to bear the loss for the RM5 billion bond by 1MDB."

He added that BN politicians and its associates had been identified as holding offshore accounts, including former PM Dr Mahathir Mohamad's son Mirzan Mahathir, incumbent Federal Territories Minister Raja Nong Chik (left) and a Umno-linked businessman Michael Chia.

"Secret offshore accounts are only used for dealings that need to be hidden from view, because such countries have laws that protect businesses even if there are elements of crime or corruption," he said.

Rafizi, who is PKR's candidate for the Pandan parliamentary seat, said he plans to lodge a report with the police and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) tomorrow and Thursday respectively.

He has called for the funds to be returned to Malaysia immediately and for the parties responsible to be "brought to justice".

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