

Najib: Sirul's 'acted on orders' claim is rubbish

MalaysiaKini.com

Feb 19, 2015

By Adrian Wong

Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak has described former police commando Sirul Azhar Umar's claim that he acted under orders as "utter rubbish".

He said this after attending the MCA Chinese New Year open house event at the party headquarters in Kuala Lumpur.

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At first, Najib delivered his Chinese New Year message and said he is confident Malaysians would be able make 2015 a good year despite the nation facing major economic challenges.

Immediately after this, Malaysiakini quizzed him about Sirul's claim that he acted under orders and that those with the motive to kill Altantuya Shaariibuu are still free.

Najib, who was accompanied by his wife Rosmah Mansor, shook his head in disapproval and started to leave.

When pressed, he said "utter rubbish" and left.

In an exclusive telephone interview with Malaysiakini, Sirul had claimed that he was acting on orders and reiterated that he was being made a "scapegoat".

He is also mulling the possibility of revealing all regarding the case after being approached by several Australian media organisations for interviews.

Last month, the Federal Court sentenced Sirul and another former police commando Azilah Hadri to death for the murder.

Sirul, however, was not present as he had fled to Australia where he is currently being held at an immigration detention centre in Sydney.

Malaysia is in the process of filing for his extradition but Australian law dictates that a person facing the death sentence in his or her home country cannot be sent back.

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