

## **Najib 'cheerful' despite more depressing news**

**MalaysiaKini.com**

**July 3, 2015**

Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak may have complained about being depressed yesterday over negative media reports but he was described as cheerful today, despite being hit by more bad press.

This was according to Housing, Local Government and Urban Well-being Minister Abdul Rahman Dahlan following a report in The Wall Street Journal this morning that said 1MDB's funds were channelled into Najib's private bank accounts.

"The man was in a cheerful and good mood chairing meeting this morning. Sorry to burst your bubble," said Abdul Rahman in a Twitter posting.

He was responding to PKR communications director Fahmi Fadzil who had on Twitter mocked Najib as a "Bugis worrier" following the WSJ report, in reference to the prime minister's self-declaration that he is a Bugis warrior.

The WSJ report claimed almost US\$700 million of 1MDB's funds was channelled into Najib's private bank accounts ahead of the last general election.

By far the largest transactions were two deposits of US\$620 million and US\$61 million, in March 2013, during the heated 13th general election campaign in Malaysia.

"The cash came from a company registered in the British Virgin Islands via a Swiss bank owned by an Abu Dhabi state fund.

"Another set of transfers, totaling \$11.1 million, originated within the Malaysian government, according to the investigation.

"Investigators believe the money came from an entity known as SRC International Sdn Bhd, an energy company that originally was controlled by 1MDB but was transferred to the Finance Ministry in 2012," WSJ reported.

In an immediate response, 1MDB denied any of its funds went to the prime minister.

The Prime Minister's Office in a statement also dismissed the WSJ report as an attempt at political sabotage against Najib.

Yesterday, Najib lamented that he was depressed by "inaccurate media reports" which had generated negative perception against the government.

"I am depressed, politicians are depressed because we are easy targets," he had said.

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