

1MDB to ask Audit Dept which documents it needs

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1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) said today it will contact the National Audit Department immediately to seek clarity on the documents the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) was referring to for the department to continue its probe.

1MDB president and group executive director Arul Kanda Kandasamy said the company took note of the PAC chairperson's comments on the need for thoroughness of the auditor-general's investigation, including inspecting documents from 1MDB and other parties.

"1MDB confirms that all documents in its possession have been submitted to the National Audit Department.

"As the interim report has not yet been shared with 1MDB, we are unable to comment on the PAC chairman Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed's statement that certain documents appear to have not been submitted," he said in a statement.

Auditor-general Tan Sri Ambrin Buang today presented a preliminary report on 1MDB to the PAC at Parliament House.

At a news conference later, Nur Jazlan said the PAC asked 1MDB to hand over documents sought by the auditor-general to complete the audit.

He said the documents included bank statements and agreement papers which were considered crucial for the ongoing audit.

Arul expressed the commitment of 1MDB to fully cooperate with the auditor-general and all lawful authorities that were currently investigating 1MDB.

Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak had instructed the auditor-general on Mar 4 to vet the accounts of 1MDB and said then he hoped that the outcome of the auditor-general's findings would put to rest speculation about its activities.

The PAC initiated its own investigation into the government investment company on May 19, after having decided to do so at a special meeting on Apr 30.

Last Friday, The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) published an article alleging that 1MDB funds were channelled to the personal bank accounts of Najib.

On the same day, the Prime Minister's Office dismissed the WSJ report and labelled it a political sabotage "to topple a democratically elected prime minister".

1MDB also said that it had never transferred funds to Najib.

- Bernama

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