

Why ministers mum on Umno man's Justo meet?

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DAP veteran Lim Kit Siang has questioned why cabinet ministers have not taken any interest in the Umno man who purportedly met former PetroSaudi International director Xavier Andre Justo.

This follows calls by two ministers - Communication and Multimedia Minister Ahmad Shabery Cheek (photo) and Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Minister Abdul Rahman Dahlan - daring opposition leaders who allegedly met Justo to own up.

"As Thai police have said that Justo had met with around 10 individuals, one of whom was an Umno member, in his (Justo's) bid to sell data stolen from PetroSaudi International Ltd (PSI), why is Shabery not also challenging Umno or BN on the same matter?," Lim said in a statement today.

On Thursday, Thai police said the individuals who met Justo included a media tycoon, a Malaysian opposition figure, as well as a man from the same party as Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak.

However, the Thai police did not name anyone.

Apart from Shabery, Abdul Rahman turned to Twitter to taunt Lim, asked if DAP was worried that its "star MP" - a hint at Petaling Jaya Utara MP Tony Pua - would be implicated.

Lim's response to this was: "Not at all".

Don't beat around the bush

Lim said Abdul Rahman should not beat around the bush and specifically mention names.

"The question is why Abdul Rahman (photo) is acting in so shady a manner indulging in a 'cat-and-mouse' game instead of openly, gentlemanly and honorably naming Pua has having lied about meeting Justo.

"Abdul Rahman as good as named Pua in his numerous insinuations, so don't be a coward and take that half step to specifically name Pua," said Lim.

Through Facebook today, Pua had challenged ministers to openly name him.

Justo was arrested by Thai police on June 22 for an alleged attempt at blackmailing PSI for 2.5 million Swiss Franc by threatening to reveal the confidential company information.

Malaysian authorities claim that Justo eventually leaked tampered PSI documents to whistleblower website Sarawak Report, which had wrote extensively on 1MDB's failed

joint-venture with PSI.

1MDB had invested US\$1 billion in the JV project, but pulled out in just six-months.

Among other issues, Sarawak Report claimed that US\$700 million of the original sum was diverted into the account of a company controlled by Jho Low, a known Najib associate.

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