

## **Najib stays mum on use of 1MDB funds for GE13**

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**By Kow Gah Chie**

Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak kept mum once again when asked whether RM2.6 billion from 1MDB funds went into his private bank accounts and if the money was used for general election purposes.

Approached by journalists at the Hari Raya open house at Parliament today, Najib kept silent on the issue.

He was also asked about his predecessor Dr Mahathir Mohamad's latest comment on the matter, which he also refused to answer.

The Wall Street Journal reported that US\$700 (RM2.6 billion) of 1MDB-linked funds were channelled into Najib's private bank accounts and were used for the 2013 general election.

On Monday, Mahathir in his blog claimed that Umno was told the money purportedly deposited into a private bank account was used in the last general election.

"There is no denial the money was deposited in the private account.

"The explanation to Umno is that it was for the elections. Umno seems satisfied.

"Don't they know that government money cannot be used to help a political party win elections?" asked Mahathir.

This same set of questions were posed to Najib last Friday, but he also refused to reply.

However, Umno supreme council members Tajuddin Abdul Rahman and Reezal Merican Naina Merican have denied Mahathir's claims.

"The only thing Najib said was the money wasn't from 1MDB and never used for his personal gain.

"I heard it myself," Reezal Merican told Malaysiakini yesterday.

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