

'Patience, PM will respond to RM2.6b video'

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By Kow Gah Chie

Umno supreme council member Tajuddin Abdul Rahman is certain Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak will respond to the controversial leaked video saying RM2.6 billion went into his personal account.

"This is a very serious allegation. I don't think Najib will ignore it. I am sure Najib will not close his ear. He will explain; just be patient," Tajuddin told Malaysiakini.

"I am sure he doesn't want his name to be tarnished if the matter is not true," he said, adding, "I think Najib will look at this seriously."

The deputy agriculture minister was responding to a 57-second video clip depicting Najib's former deputy Muhyiddin Yassin claiming that the prime minister admitted RM2.6 billion went into his personal account.

Muhyiddin, who was dropped from the cabinet during a reshuffle on Tuesday, was recorded as saying this during a meeting at his house the same night with several people, including Kedah Menteri Besar Mukhriz Mahathir.

As for Muhyiddin's claim, Tajuddin said: "Najib may have spoken to Muhyiddin, if Muhyiddin claimed he had heard it from (Najib). We just don't know."

He said Najib told Umno leaders that he did not use 1MDB-linked funds for his personal gain.

"We hold on to what he said. We must have trust in him," he added.

Previously, Tajuddin had denied the claim that Najib told Umno the money was used to finance the 2013 general election campaign.

Asked whether Najib should resign or take leave if he admitted the money went into his account, Tajuddin, who is Pasir Salak MP, said, "I don't want to comment. We wait and see; we'll cross the bridge when we come to it."

He also brushed off the allegation that the leaked video may be a plot by Muhyiddin to get back at Najib, who ousted him from the cabinet.

"No. Muhyiddin said he accepted that with an open heart," Tajuddin said.

He also said the content of the leaked video would not have an impact on the trust of the Umno grassroots for their leader.

"A real party man will still support the leader.

"What is important now is not to follow an individual's will. We have to follow what is right for the party and the government," he added.

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