

Nazir says Bank Negara's Zeti a 'global icon'

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The prime minister's brother Nazir Razak has hailed Bank Negara governor Zeti Akhtar Aziz as among the "global icons" as he posed for a photograph with her and International Monetary Fund managing director Christine Lagarde.

Nazir who posted the photograph on Instagram wrote: "My moment with two icons of global finance".

The photograph was taken during Lagarde's visit to Kuala Lumpur in November 2012.

The photograph appeared innocent enough but it came at a time when members of the special task force on 1MDB, including Zeti (photo), are coming under attack for investigating deposits of RM2.6 billion into Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's personal bank accounts.

On Monday, the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) said the RM2.6 billion purportedly deposited into Najib's accounts came from donation, not from 1MDB funds.

Remain strong and steadfast

The photograph immediately courted comments with some can't help but to speculate if there was a subtle message behind it.

"Deep," said Instagram user fazuraazima.

Other users, however, saw it as an opportunity to comment on the ongoing political crisis in the country.

"Hope Zeti will remain strong and steadfast, don't let hidden hands demoralise her. Najib (photo) and co are going all out to harass and intimidate (the) graftbusters," said Instagram user twotwooneeight.

"May Allah protect Zeti from the greedy people," said another Instagram user jejai3434.

However, several other commenters also remarked that Zeti was an outstanding and respected banker.

Zeti is part of the special task force comprising the police, MACC, Bank Negara and coordinated by the Attorney-General's Chambers.

Zeti has come under attack in recent weeks, with anonymous blogs being set up to accuse her family of money laundering.

This is amid the sacking last Tuesday of attorney-general Abdul Gani Patail who had coordinated the special task force's investigations from the legal aspect.

Several MACC investigators probing the RM2.6 billion deposits have also been arrested on grounds of "activities detrimental to democracy".

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