

## **MACC officer insists cops meddling in probe**

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A Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) senior officer has insisted the police disrupted their investigation into SRC International Sdn Bhd.

The officer, who declined to be named, said MACC has set Aug 15 as deadline for its investigation in the high-profile case.

Due to this, he said the officers worked around the clock through the fasting month.

"Many of our witnesses were picked up from police stations or from Bukit Aman as the police detained them first.

"But after MACC freed some of the main witnesses, the police picked them up as well and we don't know the reason for this," he told Malaysiakini.

"To make matters worse, our officers who are investigating (the SRC case), including our DPP, were also arrested. Police denied they were arrested but do you know the MACC officers are let off on a RM10,000 bail? One of them had to spend the night in the lock-up.

"How can the police say it is not an arrest, when they (had to) give bail. They can lie to the public but not to those who know the law," he added.

To date, seven MACC officers have been called in by the police, the first was DPP Ahmad Shazalee Abdul Khairi early Saturday morning and the last, MACC's special operations deputy director Tan Kang Sai on Wednesday.

This evening, special operations director Bahri Mohd Zain, who has been extremely vocal in his criticism of police action, was transferred with immediate effect to the Prime Minister's Department.

The SRC International probe concerns the RM4 billion loan from the government pension fund (KWAP) to 1MDB and the subsequent transfer of RM42 million into Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's personal bank accounts.

The police have been probing MACC officers with regard to leaks from this investigation under Section 124B of the Penal Code for "activity detrimental to parliamentary democracy", but it has sparked allegations that this was an attempt to thwart the commission's probe.

### **Morale low in MACC**

The officer also dismissed Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi's assurance that no action would be taken against MACC legislators.

“Do you trust politicians?” he quipped when quizzed on the matter.

“First Zahid said our men are not arrested, but I am telling you three of them, including the MACC DPP, were let off on bail. If that is not arrest, then I do not know what it is.

“They raided our office and our homes. What is that?” he thundered.

Meanwhile, another MACC source said morale among the commission staff is low following the police’s action, and the transfers of two top MACC officers today would worsen the situation.

"We needed counselling sessions, and get-together sessions to support each other," he added, citing the 'solat hajat' (special prayers) as an example.

The police have repeatedly denied meddling in the MACC probe.

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