

Najib clears self of corruption but...

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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak appears to have cleared himself of corruption with regards to the RM2.6 billion in funds deposited into his personal bank accounts, by citing non-existent findings by the MACC.

This was because the MACC only stated the RM2.6 billion in funds did not originate from 1MDB but did not declare the funds to be free of corruption.

"I am responsible for whatever is done. I will not sell the country.

"MACC had said that the RM2.6 billion was not corruption and not 1MDB's funds.

"All funds received is only for the benefit of the party and rakyat," Najib had said in a Facebook posting late last night.

MACC had in a statement on Aug 3 confirmed the RM2.6 billion in deposits into Najib's personal bank accounts but stated that it wasn't 1MDB's funds but was from an unnamed donor.

Subsequently, on Aug 5, MACC issued another statement, stressing that this did not mean its investigation was completed.

"MACC found that many quarters were still unclear or confused by assuming that MACC had ceased its investigation into the SRC International issue or the RM2.6 billion funds.

"Therefore, MACC would like to stress that it had never said the case being investigated had been closed. MACC only stated that the money was not from 1MDB," it had said.

Plans to question PM

In the same statement, MACC went on to say that it was planning to question Najib over the matter.

"MACC had received explanation from the donor from the Middle East and relevant quarters have also confirmed the donation.

"The RM2.6 billion donation had nothing to do with 1MDB.

"Discussions were held with the attorney-general who had asked MACC to explain the matter while investigation is still ongoing.

"In relation to this, MACC would like to inform that Najib will be asked to explain to the MACC about the donation he received," it said.

On the same Wednesday evening when the statement was released, MACC investigators looking into the RM2.6 billion deposits were arrested by police.

Their homes and offices were raided by police while their laptops confiscated.

Two days later, MACC special operations division director Bahri Mohamad Zin (photo), who was the lead investigator looking into the "donation" for Najib was abruptly transferred out of the graft buster agency.

Bahri, together with MACC strategic communications director Rohaizad Yaakob, were transferred to the Prime Minister's Department.

The actions against the MACC had left the graft buster's investigation in disarray and it appears unclear if it can still go ahead with its plan to question Najib.

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