

AG: PM 'has no hand' in how we handle 1MDB

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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak has no hand in how the Attorney-General's Chambers handles matters related 1MDB, said attorney-general Mohamed Apandi Ali today.

"We are independent," he told Malaysiakini. "We will decide according to the laws."

He was asked about the follow-up action by the AG's Chambers in relation to the investigation papers submitted by Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), which recommended appropriate action.

"I don't choose colour or whatever," said Mohamed Apandi, who replaced Abdul Gani Patail on July 27.

The former Federal Court judge had also disclosed that the AG's Chambers is still in the process of examining the BNM probe papers.

To a question on speculation being rife that Najib changed the attorney-general to cover up a charge sheet on corruption prepared against him, Apandi (photo) made a vehement denial.

"The questions of cover-up or not is your perception. I have been trained as a judge according to the law," he stressed.

"Don't try to insinuate anything against me. I give a warning to everybody. All right?... Be careful. I will be watching," he warned.

Task force disbanded

Other than the early termination of Gani, the appointment of Public Accounts Committee (PAC) chairperson Nur Jazlan Mohamed and three members into the Najib administration, which led to a three-month standstill to the PAC investigation into 1MDB, have also drawn flak.

On July 3, The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) and whistleblower Sarawak Report reported that RM2.6 billion had been transferred into Najib's private bank accounts.

A special task force comprising the AG's Chambers, police, the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission and Bank Negara was entrusted to investigate 1MDB and whether Najib received the money.

However, Mohamed Apandi has since disbanded the task force.

MACC later confirmed that Najib received RM2.6 billion in political donation and said it would summon the prime minister for questioning.

MACC is also probing former 1MDB subsidiary SRC International and the transfer of RM42 million into Najib's accounts.

The prime minister has repeatedly denied using public funds for personal gain.

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