

'DEIG more alarming than PM's RM2.6b donation'

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A cabinet minister believes Selangor's controversial Darul Ehsan Investment Group (DEIG) is a more serious matter than the RM2.6 billion donation received by Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak.

This is because RM30 billion worth of state assets will be parked in DEIG, which is a RM2 company, Urban Wellbeing, Housing, and Local Government Minister Abdul Rahman Dahlan said today.

"The money involved is too large - RM30 billion. This is far higher than the RM2.6 billion (donation)," Rahman told a press conference.

"If I were to look at it, there is a disproportionate response of worries from DAP lawmaker Tony Pua and the national leadership of the opposition on this issue," he said.

"If you look at the timeline on Facebook and Twitter, you will see that they are trying to sidestep the issue, This is utterly irresponsible," said Rahman (photo), who is also BN strategic communications director.

"The opposition responded to the RM2.6 billion (donation) in a tone that as though tomorrow is doomsday," he said sardonically.

"They should be worried about the RM30 billion asset which may be put under the care of a RM2 company," Rahman said, adding that he feared there would be no check-and-balance mechanism to monitor the DEIG.

It was reported that Selangor assets worth RM30 billion , previously managed by Mentri Besar Incorporated (MBI), may be transferred to DEIG.

'Swiss attorney-general has no jurisdiction'

In another development, the Umno minister ridiculed the former Batu Kawan Umno division vice-chairperson, Khairuddin Abu Hassan, for submitting evidence on the 1MDB fiasco to the attorney-general's office in Switzerland three days ago.

"This is ridiculous. The Swiss attorney-general has no jurisdiction over Malaysia, (if so) then we are colonised," Rahman said.

"The only person with such jurisdiction is our attorney-general, who will act on facts and figures.

"The problem now is when the attorney-general does not act in accordance with what the

opposition wants, they will complain that he does not act.

"The attorney-general is the best, only if he acts in accordance with the opposition," he said, urging these people to stop being emotional and to let the public prosecutor do the job.

Khairuddin handed over evidence and chronology of the scandal about 2.30pm, Swiss time, on Tuesday.

"Swiss authorities will investigate comprehensively the (alleged) wrongdoings in 1MDB involving Swiss banks and several international banks," Khairuddin said after handing over the materials.

Rahman declined to comment when asked about the newly-established National Revenue Recovery Enforcement Team (NRRET) that will now investigate 1MDB.

"I don't know. I don't want to comment about the (new) task force. Let it be. We will just wait and see if the task force finds anything. Be patient," he replied.

The new task force is being set up by the Attorney-General's (AG) Chambers to probe 1MDB and trace back its funds.

The new entity has raised questions as to whether it will replace the special task force on 1MDB, which was disbanded earlier this month.

The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission has been excluded from the NRRET.

The AG's Chambers, Bank Negara, and the police, which sat in the first task force, are among five agencies included in NRRET, with the other two being the Customs and Excise Department and the Inland Revenue Board.