

**MACC: Not all donations are bribes**  
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The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission today reminded the public that no all political donations amount to corruption.

MACC Deputy Commissioner (Prevention) Mustafar Ali said even though the MACC Act classifies donations as a possible form of corruption, it must be studied properly before any action can be taken.

This includes looking at who gave the bribe, to whom, and what influence was used, he said.

"We can't be quick to judge. For example when someone gets married or has a child, we give gifts, no? This is the tradition in Malaysia.

"But look at the context, who gave it, and the possibility that it is an 'official deal' related to the work of the donor and the receiver," Mustafar was quoted as saying by Astro Awani, at a press conference in Kuala Lumpur today.

His explanation comes amid mounting public anger over a RM2.6 billion donation received by Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak into his personal accounts.

The donation, received before the 2013 general elections, allegedly came from a Middle-Eastern donor to help Umno stay in power and as gratitude for Malaysia's efforts to combat terrorism.

Najib cited the MACC's acknowledgement that it was a donation as a means to clear himself of wrongdoing.

However the graft buster said it is still investigating the donation, and plans to interview the prime minister.