

Kit Siang: Zahid's reply to royal decree meaningless
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Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi's remarks on the Conference of Rulers decree on 1MDB yesterday means nothing, DAP parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang says.

Zahid (photo) had said that the 1MDB probe must follow due process and that the government views the sultans' decree positively.

"Such a statement actually says nothing, as it is the classic strategy of adopting a form of language which seems to agree with the concerns expressed by the rulers while continuing with the directions and approaches which had given rise to the rulers' concerns in the first place," Lim said in a statement today.

He then questioned if Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's administration understood the decree, as its actions in the past 24 hours say otherwise.

Lim cited the Attorney-General's Chambers statement yesterday that the special task force investigating 1MDB has not been disbanded, lawyer Matthias Chang's arrest, and 1MDB's insistence that it has more assets than debts, as points of contention.

"Malaysians, and Malay rulers themselves, need to be convinced that this is so, as the actions and statements of the Umno/BN government in the 48 hours, after the Malay rulers' statement, point to the contrary," he said.

Motion to debate decree

To rectify this, the Gelang Patah MP called on Zahid, as the BN parliamentary whip, to agree to a motion to debate the sultans' decree during the first two days of the coming Dewan Rakyat session.

The Rulers' Conference on Tuesday decreed that the investigation into 1MDB be completed as soon as possible and the wrongdoers, if any, be punished.

They said if the 1MDB issue is not dealt with intelligently, and continues to drag on, it will damage the economy and the people's welfare.

US financial daily The Wall Street Journal has reported that 1MDB funds had made their way into Najib's personal bank accounts.

Najib (photo), however, denied any wrongdoing or that he had used 1MDB funds for personal gain.