

## **I'm not a politician, says 1MDB chief Arul**

**MalaysiaKini.com**

**Oct 31<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

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1MDB president Arul Kanda Kandasamy has stressed that he is not a politician, and has refused to answer questions on "political matters".

"I should have made this clear: I am not a politician. I am a professional.

"So political matters and questions should be directed at politicians," he said in a press conference in Kuala Lumpur today.

He said this when asked to comment on the fact that people from both the opposition and the ruling coalition have criticised the debt-ridden 1MDB.

After initial bouts of silence when allegations were made against the Finance Ministry investment fund, Arul began issuing statements to counter criticisms of 1MDB from DAP lawmaker Tony Pua, who is on the Public Accounts Committee (PAC).

The PAC is currently probing 1MDB and its alleged wrongdoings, but its work was stalled when Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak promoted four of its BN members to the ministries in his controversial cabinet reshuffle.

Arul insisted that he will only answer questions on matters related to 1MDB.

"That is my responsibility; that is my job," he said.

However, he admitted that things happening on the political front do affect 1MDB, in terms of investor confidence.

Despite the negative light cast on 1MDB, he said the main thing they have to do now is to focus on reducing their debts and executing their rationalisation plans to restore 1MDB's reputation.

"Talk is cheap," he quipped.

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Source: <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/317912>