

Zahid avoids questions on four wanted for 1MDB probe

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Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi sidestepped questions today on four former 1MDB and SRC International executives wanted by Bank Negara and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) for their investigations into 1MDB.

Asked whether he would order the police to assist in the arrest of the four by putting them on Interpol's wanted list, Zahid, who is also home minister, said the question should be put to the police.

"As for the operation matters, I think you need to ask the inspector-general of police (Khalid Abu Bakar) or (Criminal Investigation Department chief) Mohamad Salleh.

"I'll leave it to them to address the operational issues," Zahid told reporters at a press conference in Kuala Lumpur today.

In a written reply to Parliament yesterday, Zahid said Interpol Malaysia is not tracking Penang-born billionaire Jho Low and other four because the police are not investigating them.

"Interpol Malaysia cannot detect and determine their whereabouts at present because the police are not investigating them.

"Furthermore, (the police) did not receive any application from any party to request help from Interpol to detect them," Zahid stated in a parliamentary written reply to Wong Chen (PKR-Kelana Jaya), who asked for the whereabouts of the five.

The other four are the managing director of 1MDB's former subsidiary SRC International Sdn Bhd Nik Faisal Ariff Kamil, Deutsche Bank country manager Yusof Annuar Yaacob, Casey Tang of 1MDB's precursor Terengganu Investment Authority's (TIA) and a former executive director at UBG, Jasmine Loo.

Both Tang and Loo were sought by Bank Negara Malaysia back in July.

Tang was one of the pioneers of Terengganu Investment Authority (TIA), which later became 1MDB.

He was reported to be involved in 1MDB's plan to subscribe to US\$500 million of murabaha notes in the 1MDB-PetroSaudi International joint venture.

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