

Kini Roundup: Donation twist, Save M'sia under spotlight, trouble in S'wak
MalaysiaKini.com
Apr 16th, 2016
Kini Roundup

Here are the key headlines you may have missed yesterday.

Donation twist

Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Adel Al-Jubeir said he was aware of the political donation received by Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak, despite earlier claiming the money to be an investment.

Following this, Najib's aide demanded that western media apologise for claiming otherwise or that the money was linked to 1MDB.

However, Al-Jubeir – who spoke to journalists in Istanbul after meeting Najib on the sidelines of the 13th Summit of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation - did not provide any details, such as where the money came from, what was the sum, and when it was given.

Meanwhile, 1MDB president Arul Kanda Kandasamy accepted Petaling Jaya Utara MP Tony Pua's debate challenge, following the completion of the Public Accounts Committee Report (PAC) on 1MDB.

Save Malaysia under spotlight

Analysts believe attempts to court Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi to remove Najib was a sign that the Save Malaysia movement was losing steam.

However, Save Malaysia secretariat member Zaid Ibrahim disagreed, stating that the courting was directed at Umno members and did not mean the opposition was losing strength.

Meanwhile, the opposition is also having differing opinions about the public face of the Save Malaysia movement Dr Mahathir Mohamad, with Lembah Pantai MP Nurul Izzah claiming the "ex-dictator" cannot decide the country's future.

Trouble in Sarawak

Trouble is brewing for the opposition in Sarawak after PKR there refused to abide by the seat allocation consensus with DAP, brokered by its national leadership.

DAP is also upset at PKR for negotiating with PAS, which is not a member of the Pakatan Harapan coalition.

The DAP is also facing its own troubles with several leaders barred from entering Sarawak ahead of the May 7 election.

DAP veteran Lim Kit Siang had urged Sarawak Chief Minister Adenan Satem to lift the ban, but previous calls had fallen on deaf ear.

The ruling BN is also having problems of its own with predominantly Chinese SUPP kicking up a storm after being ostensibly sidelined by Adenan in favour of splinter group UPP. UPP leaders said the party is open to a merger with its rival after the state polls.

Other Kini bites

Najib failed to strike out Pandan MP Rafizi Ramli's defence of fair comment in his defamation suit against the PKR leader.

A defence lawyer suggested that deputy public prosecutor Kevin Morais, who was found dead in a cement-filled oil barrel, may have killed himself.

Subang MP R Sivarasa claimed trial for allegedly posting a fake Time cover of Najib in his Facebook page.

Amnesty International said it will recognise Haris Ibrahim as a prisoner of conscience if the activist cum lawyer is put behind bars for sedition.

Looking ahead

DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng is expected to arrive in Kuching, Sarawak, this morning in a test of Sarawak's immigration after a string of DAP leaders were earlier deported on arrival.

Controversial preacher Zakir Naik is to host a major ceramah session from 5pm to 11pm today in Kuala Lumpur.