

WSJ journalist ejected from 1MDB session in Sydney

MalaysiaKini.com

Nov 8th, 2016

A *Wall Street Journal* journalist was kicked out of a 1MDB information session in Sydney, believed to have been organised by the Special Affairs Department (Jasa).

"Just got kicked out of a 'public' event where 1MDB's Arul Kanda (was) explaining the controversy to Malaysian students in Sydney," WSJ Sydney bureau deputy chief Rachel Pannett said on Twitter today.

Her colleague Tom Wright added only Malaysian students are allowed to ask questions at the event.

DAP's Petaling Jaya Utara MP Tony Pua condemned the use of taxpayers funds to organised such events.

"Our Ministry of Information spent tens of thousands of taxpayers money taking Arul Kanda to go University of New South Wales, Sydney to spin his tale about 1MDB.

"Guess what they achieved? They kicked out Rachel Pannett of *The Wall Street Journal* from the "public" talk.

"What a bunch of useless jokers," Pua wrote on Facebook.

Jasa has organised various information sessions on 1MDB featuring its president Arul Kanda Kandasamy, at public universities in Malaysia.

These events are closed-door functions, featuring Arul Kanda as the only speaker and a moderator from Jasa to facilitate the talk.

This had led some students at University of Malaya (UM) to hold up placards in [protest](#) when the event was held at their university on Oct 11, much to the chagrin of the Jasa strategic communications director Tun Faisal Ismail Aziz.

The student group UM Association of New Youth (Umany) slammed the event as a one-sided "[brainwashing session](#)".

The then Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia pro-tem committee member Syed Saddiq Abdul Rahman also complained of being [barred](#) from the UM event, after being told that it was open to UM students only.

Copyright © 1999-2016 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd

Source: <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/362160>