

Bala to have second meeting with French investigators
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Private investigator P Balasubramaniam is due to meet French investigators who are investigating into allegations of corruption in the sale of two submarines to Malaysia, for a second meeting in Paris today.

This follows a three-hour meeting yesterday with French lawyer Joseph Breham (left), who is leading the team of French investigators.

"Balasubramaniam will be meeting the French lawyers in seven hours' time (4pm Malaysian time)," said Balasubramaniam's lawyer Americk Singh Sidhu.

"Interestingly, two new Malaysian names have cropped up from yesterday's meetings."

Americk however declined to reveal who they are.

Balasubramaniam is in Paris to assist the French on possible kickbacks paid in the sale of two Scorpene submarines by French-based naval defence company DCNS. The payment of commissions for such deals is illegal under French law.

Answers next Monday

The private eye, who is in self-imposed exile in India, flew to London last week to be quizzed by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) officials.

However, the MACC changed its mind four days before the scheduled meeting and instead opted to deliver a set of 50-odd questions by courier to Balasubramaniam (right) in London.

The anti-graft agency has been tasked with investigating the private investigator's allegation that Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's younger brother Nazim and businessman Deepak Jaikishan had played a role in Balasubramaniam's retraction of his highly controversial first statutory declaration.

Americk said Balasubramaniam's affidavit-in -response to the anti-corruption agency's questions will be delivered to the MACC office on July 19.

"Balasubramaniam signed the affidavit (last) Friday before a notary in London," he said.

"Lawyer Manjeet Singh Dhillon will deliver the affidavit to the MACC that day."

In addition to Americk and Manjeet, Balasubramaniam is represented by Amarjit Singh.

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