

Karpal: Najib must testify in Altantuya murder trial
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Top lawyer Karpal Singh today demanded the country's deputy premier be summoned as a witness in the gruesome murder of a Mongolian woman with whom he has been linked.
MCPX

karpal singh altantuya murder case pc 240608 01Karpal, who is holding a watching brief for the family of the slain 28-year old Altantuya Shaariibuu yesterday had filed a court notice to compel Deputy Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak and two other policemen to testify.

"It is necessary because Najib's evidence is needed for the just decision of this case because of the role that he is said to have played," Karpal told AFP.

"It has taken a different turn altogether and all this while he has been denying everything but all these matters have to be cleared," he said.

Karpal, also the DAP chairperson, has also asked the court to summon private investigator P Balasubramaniam to give evidence in the murder case after his sworn statement last month, linking Najib to Altantuya, which he swiftly retracted.

PI's credibility under question

Balasubramaniam, who went missing after his explosive statements is in hiding in a neighbouring Southeast Asian country, police have said.

"He is a key prosecution witness. He says he was not asked about these details by the prosecutors and that is why they were not revealed in court," Karpal said.

"The court should now order that he be recalled as a witness to explain these claims," he said.

"Otherwise the court will be in a position where they would have to ascertain his credibility, but more importantly whether the evidence he gave earlier was correct."

Altantuya was murdered in 2006 and her body blown up with explosives in a remote forest and Najib's close friend, Abdul Razak Baginda, who had hired the investigator in the lead up to her death, is on trial for abetting the murder.

Najib has denied the allegations, saying never met the model.

The prosecution wrapped up their case last month and the judge will hear submissions from the defence tomorrow at the Shah Alam High Court.