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Najib seeks apology from Ling

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak has sent a letter of demand to Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik, asking for a retraction and apology within seven days over a statement relating to the 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB).

The letter of demand was issued by Messrs Hafarizam Wan and Aisha Mubarak, which is acting for Najib in his personal capacity, and served at Dr Ling's house in Bukit Damansara.

Dr Ling's wife, Toh Puan Ena Ling, acknowledged receiving the letter.

It was reported in *Sin Chew Daily* that Ena said the former MCA president had passed the letter to his lawyer and that they would discuss the matter before deciding on the next course of action.

She declined further comment.

When asked on the matter after chairing the MCA central committee meeting, party president Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai said: "Let the law take its course."

Referring to the statement published in an article entitled "MCA's Liong Sik Joins Call for Najib's Ouster for allegedly Putting People's Money in His Own Pocket" on an online portal, the letter said the plain and ordinary meaning of the words meant that, among others, Najib had misappropriated funds belonging to a government investment fund to his personal account.

They also meant, it added, that he had misused the funds for his personal interest, abused his power as a political party and national leader, and that he was not competent to be the leader of the government of Malaysia.

Both the retraction and apology, said the letter, must be published in a page and size to be approved by Najib in two national newspapers and that Dr Ling must give a written undertaking that he shall refrain from further making or publishing the statement.

The letter, dated Oct 5, said the article remained accessible to the public at large on the Internet.