

Newspaper	New Straits Times
Date	25 August 2015

MP rapped over recycled claims

NST-25/8/2015

KUALA LUMPUR: A DAP lawmaker has alleged that RM42 billion has vanished from strategic development firm, Malaysia Development Bhd (IMDB).

Klang member of parliament Charles Santiago, in his commentary published by Free Malaysia Today on Sunday, said while Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak had yet to explain what happened to the cash, Umno leaders were quick to defend his innocence.

Santiago's allegation on the vanishing RM42 billion mirrored former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's previous accusations against IMDB.

Dr Mahathir had claimed that RM42 billion was missing from IMDB. He also alleged IMDB had

borrowed RM42 billion to dabble in "shady businesses", resulting in a loss of money.

Meanwhile, Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Seri

Salleh Said Keruak, in his blog on Sunday, said an explanation regarding IMDB had already been given with the breakdown of the RM42 billion.

"Yet Santiago said that RM42 billion has 'simply vanished'. Has he not been following the news?" he wrote.

Salleh added that not only had the matter been explained but also many people, some who were privy to the

matter, had also made statements.

"The bottom line is they keep asking the same questions over and over again while ignoring the replies to the questions and pretend as if no response has been given. And RM42 billion has not 'simply vanished' as Santiago alleges," he said.

In June, IMDB president and group executive director Arul Kanda, in a press statement accompanied with a graphic of the breakdown, had clarified that every single ringgit of the RM42 billion had been accounted for. He had also said the information on how the amount was spent was also fully disclosed in IMDB's audited and publicly available accounts from March 31, 2010 to March 31, 2014.

