

Newspaper	New Straits Times
Date	9 December 2015

'What they really want is Najib's resignation as PM'

KUALA LUMPUR: Delegates at the Umno general assembly have expressed their undivided support to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak to continue leading the country and party.

They were also confident that he would be able to resolve all issues.

This comes in the wake of yet another attack against Najib by Umno deputy president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin during the "Session With Umno Deputy President" programme at the Sultan Sulaiman Club in Kampung Baru on Monday night, in which former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal were among those present.

Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Seri Salleh Said Keruak said issues raised at the gath-



Datuk Seri
Salleh Said
Keruak

ering had been repeated many times before, adding that the Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission (MACC), tasked with the job of investigating Malaysia Development Bhd (IMDB) and the alleged RM2.6 billion donation, had issued many statements on the matters.

"IMDB has issued statements more than once. It issued another statement today. Apparently they (the speakers) are not too interested in the replies although they say they want replies. But when replies are given, they ignore the replies and keep asking the same questions,"

Salleh said this on his blog <http://sskeruak.blogspot.com>. He also said to use the Security Offences (Special Measures) Act 2012 (Sosma) against Najib, as suggested by former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, was an abuse of

the anti-terrorism law.

"In what way is IMDB or the RM2.6 billion an act of terrorism?" Salleh asked.

"First they scream corruption. Now they allege terrorism. They are no longer consistent in their statements," he said.

"What they really want, as they admitted tonight, was for Najib to resign. That is really what it is all about.

"They even suggested he take leave and come back later as prime minister, once he has been cleared, which is not at all practical," he said.

Sandakan Puteri Umno vice-chief Normawati Sarjam, meanwhile, said the wing stood firm behind Najib.

"Whatever happens, as the young, we have to follow and support our leader at all times.

"The prime minister has been leading the country and the party well. We will continue to stand firmly behind him," she said.

Normawati said Umno was a party

which practised democracy, adding that various channels were available for party members to express their unhappiness over issues.

"There is no need for anyone, including Muhyiddin, to wash dirty laundry in public. That is not the right thing to do. As the party of our forefathers, we will guard it with our life, and will not allow anyone to destroy it."

Echoing this sentiment was Umno Petaling Jaya Utara division Youth executive council member Mizril Rishah, who said Muhyiddin's attack showed that he put his own interests first before the party.

Umno Rembau division Wanita chief Wan Haijah Siti Arpah Mat Dom said the wing, top, stood firm behind the prime minister and party president, as pledged by Wanita Umno chief Datuk Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil.

Umno Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin, meanwhile, said a two-term limit (as suggested by Muhyid-

din) was too short for the party president to implement plans that would benefit Umno and the people.

"Not much can be done in two terms; it is merely six years. For me, it is too short," he said after a luncheon with Youth delegates in conjunction with the Umno general assembly yesterday.

In Klang, party supreme council member Datuk Seri Nazri Aziz said Muhyiddin's call for the party president to rest was merely his personal opinion and did not reflect the sentiment of cabinet members.

"In the cabinet, there are 35 members. How is it that he met with the prime minister and he is the only one who feels that he should rest?"

Nazri said Muhyiddin should not give a wrap-up speech at the Umno general assembly if IMDB was what he wanted to talk about.

He also described Muhyiddin's suggestion to limit the Umno president's post to two terms as undemocratic.