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Dr M: Umno's failure to report RM2.6b transaction against Societies Act

PETALING JAYA: Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Umno's failure to report the financial transaction relating to the controversial RM2.6 billion was a breach of the Societies Act 1966.

He said while Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak had claimed the money was a donation from the Middle East for the party, there is no evidence of Umno reporting such a transaction.

"(Najib) says it is for Umno. According to the Societies Act, Umno must report all financial transactions. There is no evidence it has done so," he said in his blog post yesterday.

Mahathir said Umno was declared illegal during his time for a less serious issue.

He said the public needs proof that the money deposited into Najib's personal bank account was not from state investment arm iMalaysia Development Bhd (iMDB), as claimed by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption

Commission (MACC) >

He said government departments and personnel are now under pressure, with the possibility of being sacked or transferred, with a deputy public prosecutor recently being dismissed, people making reports and their lawyers being arrested.

"So we cannot accept the statement by the MACC personnel just like that. We want proof. We want to know how the RM2.6 billion in the prime minister's account is not from iMDB," he added.

In an immediate response, iMDB said it had stated on June 3 that it had never provided funds to Najib.

Its president, Arul Kanda Kandasamy, said iMDB had explained how its RM42 billion debt was used, adding the information had been disclosed in its publicly available accounts for the financial year ended March 31, 2014. - by Amar Shah Mohsen