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1MDB duo won't run away: Najib

The Sun - 27/5/2015

> PM says the company's former and current heads will appear before PAC

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak yesterday gave his assurance that the iMalaysia Development Berhad (iMDB) officials concemed will appear before the Public Accounts Committee and not run away.

"They'll attend and not run away," he said, referring to iMDB president and group executive director Arul Kanda and former CEO Datuk Shahrol Halmi, who did not tum up for the PAC meeting yesterday.

It was reported that the Finance Ministry had last Friday informed the PAC that the duo were unable to attend due to prior commitments.

Their absence drew flak from MPs who said the duo must realise the importance of the matter as it concerns public interest.

PAC chief Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed said the duo had asked for 30 days to prepare the required documents.

PAC is expected to question iMDB's current auditor Deloitte, followed by KPMG and Emst and Young today.

In a statement yesterday, Arul said "contrary to press reports and statements by some individuals, we wish to clarify it was only on May 21 that iMDB received a letter from the Finance Ministry appending an invitation sent by thePAC".

He said the invitation requested an appearance by the company before the committee on May 26. "Upon receiving this letter, iMDB responded to the ministry on May 2L"

As contirmed by Nur Jazlan, the date for this appearance is being Gnalised, due to the date proposed earlier being in conilict with scheduled overseas commitments.

"We reiterate our intention to extend our full cooperaUon to the PAC and both me (Arul Kanda) and Shahrol look forward to appearing before the committee and take the opportunity to clarify iMDB's position," said Arul.

Najib and Rosmah pose before taking the bullet train ride in Tokyo. On the left is Liow.

Najib gets a feel of bullet train ride

The Sun - 27/5/2015

TOKYO: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak yesterday had a first-hand experience of Shinkansen, Japan's renowned bullet train that travels at 320kph.

Accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Najib boarded the Hayabusa 15 Shinkansen train at 10.40am to travel to Sendai crty, about 325km from Tokyo. The journey took just 96 minutes, compared with more than four hours by road.

Also present were Transport Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Idris Jala, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Ali Hamsa and Ambassador to Japan Datuk Ahmad Izlan Idris.

Earlier, Najib and his delegation were briefed on the Shinkansen rail service and development around the Tokyo Station by East Japan Railway Company officials. - Bemama