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# STOP

**1MDB CONTROVERSY**

## *the 'trial by media'*

*The Sun - 22/10/2015*

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak has pledged that action will be taken against state-owned investment arm iMalaysia Development Berhad (iMDB) if it is found to have violated the law.

***If there is any wrongdoing, I can assure you appropriate action will be taken against those responsible.***

"If there is any wrongdoing, I can assure you appropriate action will be taken against those responsible," he told an international audience of around 3,000 people at the launch of the Global Transformation Forum here yesterday.

He said, however, that there should not be any "trial by media" on the iMDB issue.

"In terms of claims of wrongdoing, there are a number of independent investigations, some of which I myself ordered.

"Rather than conduct a trial by media, we must wait for the outcome of these investigations," said Najib, who also gave the assurance that concrete measures were in place to address the outstanding debts and cash flow issues.

Najib also acknowledged the difficulties and the people's unhappiness with the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) as well as the gradual removal of fuel subsidies.

"Not everyone is happy with these moves (GST and subsidies removal). Politically tough, politically unpopular but the right thing to do. And that has increased our tax base significantly," he said.

Najib said Malaysia has to escape the middle-income trap, "if we are to have any hope of achieving our goal of becoming a high income nation by 2020".

"We had good years of growth but this growth was reaching a plateau. Investments were thinning.

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### S'pore church leaders convicted of fraud

SINGAPORE: Six leaders of a Han, former finance managers Se- further misusing S\$26 million to