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Prime Minister **Datuk Seri Najib Razak** meeting chief executive officers of public-listed companies at the **Invest Malaysia 2016** forum in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. Present is Minister in the Prime Minister's Department **Datuk Seri Abdul Wahid Omar** (third from right). Pic by Asyraf Hamzah

Najib: 1MDB will leave lasting legacy

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REMEMBERED:

'TRX and Bandar Malaysia projects will prove allegations against firm are wrong'

ADRIAN LAI

KUALA LUMPUR
adrianlai@nst.com.my

STRATEGIC development company 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) will leave a lasting "legacy" despite the politically-motivated allegations levelled against it.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said this was because allegations against a democratically-elected government had been proven false and that the projects under 1MDB, such as Tun Razak Exchange (TRX) and Bandar Malaysia, were well under way.

He also said the people who spread allegations were placing their

personal interests and agenda above the interests of the nation.

"To them, damage to the country is just collateral. To them, the end justifies the means. They have been airing all sorts of allegations, including about 1MDB, for instance," Najib said at the Invest Malaysia 2016 forum here yesterday.

He said the report on 1MDB tabled by the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) recently had disproved many of the allegations.

"The report shows that claims of RM42 billion going missing are false. Completely false. Malaysia's name has been unfairly dragged through the mud."

He said with the establishment of two new "vibrant centres", namely TRX and Bandar Malaysia, time would prove that the allegations against 1MDB were fabricated in an effort to unseat the government.

"In the years to come, they (TRX and Bandar Malaysia) will be the

real legacy of 1MDB.

"They will be remembered. And history will show that the shameful politically-motivated allegations made to unseat a democratically-elected government are false."

Najib, who is also finance minister, said 1MDB's assets far exceeded its liabilities, and debts had been paid through the rationalisation plan outlined by the cabinet.

"The reality is that there is a rationalisation process, and it is working. Substantial debts have been cleared, including the recent repayment of a RM950 million standby credit facility provided by the government last year."

Najib gave his assurance that action would be taken against anyone found to have committed wrongdoing in 1MDB.

He expressed his disappointment with those who had called for foreign intervention in the country, despite Malaysia's strong economic growth last year.

"Some who ought to know better have been talking Malaysia down. Indeed, they do know better."

"Malaysia is sustainable at the core because the facts (of Malaysia's strong economy) are indisputable."

