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Najib: Govt wants those named in US civil lawsuits to clear their names

Govt prepared to extend full cooperation to all quarters in the investigation, PM says

THE government wants those named in the US Department of Justice (DoJ) civil lawsuits to clear their names to show that there was no misuse of public funds as reported, said Datuk Seri Mohd Najib Razak.

The prime minister (PM) said the government takes a serious view of the DoJ report and is prepared to extend full cooperation to all quarters in the investigation.

"Let's not get carried away with the matter. Leave it to the judicial process for we believe that sooner or later the truth will prevail," he said at the presentation of offer letters for the performance of the haj at the Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin Mosque in Putrajaya yesterday.

A total of 1,100 people comprising imams, village chiefs and chairmen of village development and security committees received the letters from the 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) Foundation.

The DoJ had recently filed civil lawsuits to seize assets acquired with money allegedly misappropriated from 1MDB, the government investment



Najib (third from left) presenting the haj offer letter to Mohsin Sidal from Selangor at the Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin Mosque in Putrajaya. Looking on are Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Jamil Khir Baharom (second from left) dan Lembaga Tabung Haji chairman Datuk Seri Abdul Azeez Abdul Rahim (left)

fund. Najib, who is also the finance minister, pointed out that 1MDB was often the target of censure despite having spent hundreds of millions of ringgit on social and community programmes.

Citing the haj sponsor programme as an example, the PM said despite whatever was implemented, it would be ensured that the principle of

accountability to safeguard the people's property is not overlooked at all.

Efforts would continue to consolidate 1MDB, he said, adding that he is confident and believes that 1MDB would gain strength in the near future.

On the haj sponsor programme, Najib said 4,611 people had been sent to perform the haj since 2011 under the

programme, which he said was the manifestation of the government's appreciation for the imams, village chiefs and chairmen of village development and security committees in upholding the teachings of Islam at the grassroots level.

The PM said RM10.4 million had been allocated by the 1MDB Foundation for the pro-

gramme during this period.

Najib said the government, under his leadership, was committed to implementing its responsibility in upholding Islam guided by the Shariah principles.

He advised the pilgrims to make use of the opportunity to pray for themselves as well as for the wellbeing of the nation.

— Bernama

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