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'Muhyiddin's claim proves bid to topple Najib'

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ADMISSION: He's challenging MACC, A-G's credibility, says minister

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FORMER deputy prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin's allegation that he was briefed by former attorney-general Tan Sri Abdul Gani Patail about alleged "criminal proof" against Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak is an admission of a high-level conspiracy to topple the prime minister.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Azalina Othman Said, in a statement yesterday, said this would have been a coup against democracy and the decision of the people in the last general election.

Azalina said if Gani had shared classified legal information with Muhyiddin, a cabinet and Umno member with vested interest, it was not only unethical, but also breached the Official Secrets Act (OSA).

"How could the A-G have had sufficient 'proof' to charge the prime minister then, when an investigation had not even been launched?"

"Is this the same 'proof' that *The Wall Street Journal* referenced when



Minister in the Prime Minister's Department **Datuk Seri Azalina Othman Said** (left) says if **Tan Sri Abdul Gani Patail** (right) had shared classified legal information with **Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin**, it is not only unethical, but also breaches the Official Secrets Act.

it claimed to have seen confidential documents and used these as the basis to make sensational allegations against the prime minister?"

She said there were standard procedures in judicial systems that needed to be followed.

"If there are allegations against someone, the authorities will conduct an investigation before a charge sheet is drawn up.

"But in this case, a charge sheet was said to have been drawn up in May last year before the Special Task Force was formed.

"It was also before the investigation started in June and certainly before the prime minister was interviewed in December last year by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption

Commission (MACC). This proves that there was a conspiracy."

Azalina said Muhyiddin had indirectly questioned the credibility of the current attorney-general, Tan Sri Mohamed Apandi Ali, and MACC.

Apandi had, on Jan 26, cleared Najib of any wrongdoing regarding the RM2.6 billion political donation.

Azalina said, under Article 145 (3) of the Federal Constitution, it is the attorney-general's prerogative to start, undertake or stop any proceedings involving offences.

The discretionary power given to the attorney-general under Article 145(3) is absolute and cannot be challenged or replaced by any powers, including the judiciary.

"If any quarters do not agree with

the attorney-general's handling of a case, they do not have any basis to challenge it.

"It is important to note that the attorney-general's decision was made after a detailed investigation into the report submitted by MACC."

She said Muhyiddin did not only breach the OSA, but was also complicit in a politically-motivated conspiracy to manipulate and abuse the legal system to overthrow a democratically-elected prime minister.

"Why is Muhyiddin only confessing after he was suspended as Umno deputy president? Can his act then be seen as abetting since he did not report an alleged criminal act until today?"