

Newspaper	MALAYSIAN RESERVE
Date	22 JULY 2016

Reactions to the US DoJ's action in 1MDB investigations

Malay Reserve - 22/7/2016

We take the matter seriously, says PM, as regards statement issued by the DoJ

by AZREEN HANI

THE civil class action by the Department of Justice (DoJ) of the US to seize about US\$1 billion (RM4 billion) worth of properties, artwork and a jet alleged to have been purchased with the money siphoned from 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) has captured headlines across the globe.

These are the responses to the DoJ's action:

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Najib Razak: "We take the matter seriously on the statement issued by the US Justice Department, which was issued late last night. I want to say categorically that we are serious about good governance so anything that is against the law, we want the process to take its course."

The prime minister's press secretary Datuk Seri Tengku Sariffuddin Tengku Ahmad: "We note the US DoJ's civil lawsuits brought against various assets. As previously stated, the Malaysian government will fully cooperate with any lawful investigation



Pic by Muhd Amin Naharul

The US DoJ filed a lawsuit on Wednesday to seize assets that it said were the result of RM14b that was misappropriated from 1MDB

of Malaysian companies or citizens in accordance with international protocols.

"As the prime minister has always maintained, if any wrongdoing is proven, the law will be enforced without exception."

Attorney General (AG) Tan Sri Mohamed Apandi Ali: "The AG further notes that the basis of the civil action to forfeit assets undertaken by the US DoJ relates to the alleged laundering of money misappropriated from 1MDB. However, the AG emphasises that to date: i) there has been no evidence from any investigation

conducted by any law enforcement agencies in various jurisdictions which shows that money has been misappropriated from 1MDB; and ii) there have been no criminal charges pressed against any individuals for the offence of misappropriation of funds from 1MDB."

The DoJ filed a lawsuit on Wednesday to seize assets that it said were the result of US\$3.5 billion that was misappropriated from 1MDB.

"The AG must emphasise that it is crucial to preserve the integrity of the investigation as the public must not doubt the outcome of the investigation.

To date, the AG's Chambers has yet to receive any request from the US DoJ to obtain any information or evidence. However, we would welcome such a request in line with our commitment in international cooperation and collaboration in our fight against money laundering and corrupt practices," it said in a statement.

"1MDB highlights that it is not a party to the civil suit, does not have any assets in the US, nor has it benefitted from the various transactions described in the civil suit."

DoJ AG Loretta Lynch: "The DoJ will not allow the Ameri-

can financial system to be used as a conduit for corruption. Corrupt officials around the world should make no mistake that we will be relentless in our efforts to deny them the proceeds of their crimes."

Singapore's AG's Chambers, Singapore Commercial Affairs Department, Singapore Police Force and Monetary Authority of Singapore: "The Singapore authorities have been investigating various 1MDB-related fund flows through Singapore, for possible money laundering, securities fraud, cheating and other offences committed in Singapore.

"In the course of the investigations, bank accounts belonging to various individuals have been seized and dealings in properties belonging to some of these individuals have been curtailed. The assets amount in total to S\$240 million (RM717 million). Of these bank accounts and properties, about S\$120 million belong to Low Taek Jho and his immediate family."

The Swiss Office of the AG (SOAG): "The SOAG confirms that a US mutual legal assistance request is being currently executed. In the frame of its current criminal proceeding, the SOAG has also sent mutual legal assistance requests to different countries, including the US."