

Najib's early adjournment request rejected

KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Najib Razak, who had been sitting in the dock almost daily since April, requested his 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) trial to be adjourned early due to a health issue.

However, the court did not budge, stating that it could only consider allowing periodical breaks if needed.

Najib, through his lead counsel Tan Sri Muhammad Shafee Abdullah, requested the court to adjourn at 4.30pm for future hearings.

Shafee claimed that his client was suffering from a sore back due to sitting too long on a wooden plank in the dock.

He raised the issue at the end of proceedings.

"My client has been sitting on a wooden plank almost every day (since the beginning of another trial in connection with funds al-

legedly taken from SRC International Sdn Bhd). He needs to do some stretching when the court decides to take a short break, or his back problem is going to get worse.

"I raised the same issue during the SRC International trial before High Court judge Mohd Nazlan Mohd Ghazali," he said.

Judge Collin Lawrence Sequerah pushed aside Shafee's request before adjourning the hearing at 4.45pm.

Najib, 66, had sat for almost 60 days in the dock when he faced corruption charges relating to SRC International. Proceedings during that trial usually ended at 5pm.

The prosecution rested its case on Tuesday, but Najib was back in court the next day to face the 1MDB charges.

Proceedings on the second day of the trial saw more than 170

documents verified by a witness from the Companies Commission of Malaysia (CCM).

CCM assistant registrar Rafidah Yahaya, 48, spent the whole afternoon verifying documents relating to companies involved in the scandal.

Deputy public prosecutor Mohamad Mustafa Kunyalam, during examination-in-chief, had presented bundles of documents.

The documents were in relation to four companies: Powertek Investment Holding Sdn Bhd, Powertek Energy Sdn Bhd, Merpati Energy (Langat) Sdn Bhd and Mastika Lagenda Sdn Bhd.

Rafidah, the seventh prosecution witness, said she had processed all the applications that were stored in the Company and Business System.

Proceedings will continue on Tuesday.



Former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak requested the court to adjourn at 4.30pm in future hearings due to a back problem.

PIC BY EIZAIRI SHAMSUDIN

Najib is facing four charges of having used his positions to obtain gratification totalling RM2.3 billion in 1MDB funds and 21 counts of money laundering involving the same money.

The former prime minister is alleged to have committed gratification offences at AmIslamic

Bank Bhd at 55, Jalan Raja Chulan, Bukit Ceylon, here between Feb 24, 2011 and Dec 19, 2014.

As for the money-laundering charges, Najib is alleged to have committed the offences at the same bank between March 22, 2013, and Aug 30, 2013.