

# NAJIB TO LEND MORAL SUPPORT TO WIFE

Ex-PM's counsel gets court nod to delay Najib's abuse of 1MDB funds trial also due today

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**D**ATUK Seri Najib Razak will be there for his wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, today when the High Court delivers its verdict on whether she should be called to enter her defence over the solar hybrid project for rural schools in Sarawak.

The former prime minister's counsel, Tan Sri Muhammad Shafee Abdullah, made an application for his client to be allowed



*Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor will know today whether she will enter her defence or walk free from charges. FILE PIC*

to attend the proceedings before attending his own trial involving the abuse of 1Malaysia Develop-

ment Bhd (1MDB) funds.

Shafee had asked for his client's trial to start later as Najib wanted

to support his wife.

"I am also making an application because my client wants to support his wife," he told judge Collin Lawrence Sequerah, who is presiding over Najib's case involving the misappropriation of RM2.28 billion of 1MDB funds.

Earlier, deputy public prosecutor (DPP) Ahmad Akram Gharib told the court that three of the DPPs in Najib's case were also involved in Rosmah's case and that they needed to be there when the judge delivered the decision.

Sequerah then said Najib's trial today would start at 10am or whenever the proceedings of Rosmah's case ended.

Judge Mohamed Zaini Mazlan will deliver his verdict on whether Rosmah will be called to enter her defence or walk free from the charges at 9am today.

The prosecution had, on Dec 11

last year, wrapped up its case against Rosmah with 23 of its witnesses testifying in the trial, which started on Feb 5 last year.

Rosmah, 70, is facing one count of soliciting RM187.5 million and two counts of receiving bribes of RM6.5 million from Jepak Holdings Sdn Bhd former managing director Saidi Abang Samsudin, through her former special officer, Datuk Rizal Mansor, between January 2016 and September 2017.

She purportedly received the money in exchange for helping the company obtain a RM1.25 billion project to provide solar energy to 369 rural schools in Sarawak.

The project, known as Hybrid Photovoltaic Solar System Integrated Project and Maintenance and Operation of Genset/Diesel, was through direct negotiation with the Education Ministry.