

TRIAL CUT SHORT

'ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO CHARGE NAJIB'

Senior cop tells court papers police obtained similar to those retrieved through MLA

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THE police have enough evidence to prosecute Datuk Seri Najib Razak for misappropriating billions of 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) funds, the High Court heard yesterday.

Assistant Commissioner Foo Wei Min, who is assistant director of the Anti-Money Laundering Criminal Investigation Division, said the probe into the 1MDB scandal, initiated in July 2018, was based on documents from government internal authorities.

Foo, one of the investigating officers in Najib's case, said the documents they had obtained were almost similar to those retrieved from foreign authorities through mutual legal assistance (MLA).

Foo said this when testifying as the 48th prosecution witness in Najib's corruption trial for allegedly misappropriating millions in funds belonging to 1MDB.

The defence, led by counsel



Datuk Seri Najib Razak's 1MDB trial yesterday was cut short when the final prosecution witness tested positive for Covid-19.
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Tan Sri Muhammad Shafee Abdullah, had consistently argued that the witness investigated the case without having a complete sets of documents from foreign funds and banks.

During re-examination, deputy public prosecutor Kamal Baharin Omar asked the witness to elaborate on his investigation into the movement of millions of ringgit from the sovereign wealth fund.

Kamal: When you started your investigation in 2018, did you get the documents through MLA?

Foo: No. Not yet.

Kamal: What document did you refer to?

Foo: From other (law enforcement) agencies.

Kamal: Was it enough for your investigation?

Foo: Yes.

The trial was cut short when the final prosecution witness said she had tested positive for Covid-19.

Kamal said the witness, Malaysia Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) investigation officer Nur Aida Arifin, was under quarantine until next Monday. Aida was expected to take the stand during the trial before presiding judge Datuk Collin Lawrence Sequerah yesterday morning.

Kamal also told the court that Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) analyst Adam Ariff Mohd Roslan will return to the witness stand on Monday.

The 29-year-old analyst, when testifying on Aug 30, gave intricate insights into the labyrinthine movement of millions of ringgit from 1MDB funds, shedding light on how these funds eventually found their way to the fugitive businessman Low Taek Jho's company.

Najib, 70, is facing four charges of using his position to obtain bribes totalling RM2.3 billion from 1MDB funds and 21 charges of money laundering involving the same amount.