

DPP OBJECTS TO SHAFEE'S LINE OF QUESTIONING

Najib's counsel takes aim at ex-Ambank banker Yu over conversations with Jho Low

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ALATE-NIGHT conversation between Datuk Seri Najib Razak's former relationship manager at

Ambank, Joanna Yu Gin Ping, and rogue financier Low Taek Jho became the highlight in the former prime minister's corruption trial.

The one-hour long conversation led Najib's counsel Tan Sri Muhammad Shafee Abdullah to imply that the 52-year-old former banker had an "inappropriate" close relationship with the fugitive businessman, to which Yu disagreed.

Shafee, at the outset of the trial, had zoomed in on BlackBerry Messenger chat logs between Yu and Low, better known as Jho



Low, on the issuance of a RMS million cheque by Najib to Umno.

The chat, which started on 12.41am on Aug 21, 2014, was about Low's instructions to Yu to clear the cheque.

Shafee: I wish I had a banker who would stay up all night to get my instructions. You stay up late at night, early in the morning, at 5am with Low.



Former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak is facing four charges of using his position to obtain bribes totalling RM2.3 billion from 1Malaysia Development Bhd funds and 21 charges of money laundering involving the same amount. PIC BY HARUL ANUAR RAHIM

Yu: The 5am messages were from Low but I only replied to him at 7am.

Shafee: In another chat, you responded to him at 1am. Odd.

Yu: Before I went to bed? Yes.

Shafee: I would not dare to contact my banker at such odd hours.

The senior lawyer moved his questions on to Yu's visit to Low's apartment, which Yu clarified was for work-related reasons.

Shafee: Were you married then?

Yu: Yes.

Shafee: Your husband did not mind?

This exchange prompted deputy public prosecutor Deepa Nair Thevaharan to interject, saying: "It is very inappropriate to ask, Yang Arif."

Judge Datuk Collin Lawrence Sequerah ordered Shafee not to take the question any further.

Yu, however, answered the

question and said she was never alone with Low in his apartment.

Earlier, Yu testified that Low would often invite her for meetings at his apartment with several of his close associates.

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

The trial continues.