

US\$681m deposited into Najib's account: Witness

KUALA LUMPUR: The High Court was told yesterday that US\$681 million from 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) was deposited into former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak's personal account via eight transactions in 2013.

Bank Negara Malaysia analyst and 47th prosecution witness Adam Ariff Mohd Roslan, 29, said the funds were transferred between March 22 and April 10, 2013 by Tanore Finance Corp, a company controlled by Eric Tan Kim Loong, who is alleged to be an associate of fugitive businessman Low Taek Jho, or Jho Low.

It was reported that Tanore received US\$890 million from 1MDB subsidiary 1MDB Global Investment Ltd (IGIL) via Devonshire Capital Growth Fund and Enterprise Emerging Markets Fund (EEMF) in March 2013.

Adam Ariff confirmed that Tanore credited US\$681 million into Najib's

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account between March 22 and April 10, 2013, Bernama reported.

"According to Najib's bank statement, it was revealed that RM465,000,000 was credited via three transactions on March 22, 2013, RM369,974,962.98 transferred on March 28 the same year via two transactions," he said when verifying the money trail report at Najib's trial involving the alleged misappropriation of RM2.3 billion of 1MDB funds.

On April 8 the same year, Adam Ariff said Najib received RM152,500,000 from Tanore and another RM304,000,000 and RM602,000,000 on April 9 and

April 10 respectively.

On the first day of the trial on Aug 28, 2019, the prosecution contended that on March 14, 2013, Najib signed a letter of support to raise a loan through the issue of bonds by 1MDB from the Bank of New York Mellon Group in the sum of US\$3 billion and on March 19, 2013, a sum of US\$2.72 billion was disbursed into the account of IGIL with BSI Bank at Lugano in Switzerland.

From the US\$2.72 billion, US\$1,060,606,065 was transferred to Devonshire and EEMF. Devonshire received US\$646,464,649 in five tranches while EEMF received

US\$414,141,416 in three tranches.

On March 21, 2013, Devonshire transferred US\$430 million to Granton Property Holding Ltd, a company controlled by Tan, which then transferred the whole sum to Tanore the same day.

Also on the same day, Devonshire transferred another US\$210 million to Tanore.

Between March 22 and 25, 2013, EEMF transferred US\$250 million to Tanore, which by then had US\$890 million in its account, and between March 21 and April 10, 2013, Tanore transferred US\$681 million to Najib's account.

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

The trial before Judge Datuk Collin Lawrence Sequerah continues.