

PROBE

MACC QUIZZES EX-PM, DAIM'S WIFE AND SONS

Ismail Sabri asked about Keluarga Malaysia promo expenditure; Daim's family questioned over alleged graft

AMALIA AZMI
AND MOHD ISKANDAR IBRAHIM
PUTRAJAYA
news@nst.com.my

THE Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission's (MACC) investigations into several notable figures are gathering steam.

Yesterday, MACC officers interviewed former prime minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob, and the wife and two sons of former finance minister Tun Daim Zainuddin.

In the case of the former, the statement was recorded about 10am in Kuala Lumpur.

Ismail Sabri was believed to have been questioned over the previous administration's expenditure on the "Keluarga Malaysia" promotional campaigns.

It has been learned that the

questions were related to contracts awarded to specific individuals.

The investigation is being conducted under the Anti-Money Laundering, Anti-Terrorist Financing, and Proceeds of Illegal Activities Act 2001 and the MACC Act 2009.

The *New Straits Times* has reached out to MACC Chief Commissioner Tan Sri Azam Baki for comments. On Jan 8, the media reported that MACC would call in one former prime minister as early as this week in their investigation into the RM700 million spent by the previous federal administration on the "Keluarga Malaysia" promotion and publicity work.

Azam had said the former prime minister, his predecessor and the people from his office would be the last ones to be called in for the investigation.

On Jan 2, the NST reported that MACC had teams scouring the Finance Ministry and Prime Minister's Department for documents linked to the previous administration's spending on the campaign.

MACC was reported to be probing into allegations of excessive amounts of funds being spent on the promotion of campaigns in previous administrations, following public outcry and reports lodged.

Meanwhile, Daim's wife, Toh Puan Nai'mah Khalid, and two sons, Muhammed Amin and Muhammed Amir, were called in to the MACC headquarters to be questioned over allegations of corruption and money laundering levelled against him.

On Dec 23, MACC confirmed that it was investigating Daim over allegations of corruption and money laundering.

The confirmation came about after the commission on Dec 18 seized the 58-storey Ilham Tower, a commercial property in the Kuala Lumpur city centre reportedly owned by Daim's family.

Daim labelled the probe against him and his family a "political witch hunt".

On Dec 30, MACC said the probe into Daim began in February last year based on information from the Pandora Papers.



Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob