

NAJIB KEEPS MUM ON RM27M IN ACCOUNT

Ex-PM declines to provide evidence on source of large funds in his bank account

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DATUK Seri Najib Razak remained tight-lipped about the millions of funds remitted into his personal bank account purportedly from Retirement Fund Inc (KWAP) since 2011.

“Can we deal with it later?” said the incarcerated former prime minister when he was asked about the funds by SRC International Bhd’s lawyer Datuk Lim Chee Wee yesterday.

Najib, 71, was testifying in a US\$1.18 billion civil suit filed by SRC International against him and its former chief executive, Nik Faisal Ariff Kamil.

Lim was pressing Najib over the RM27 million in funds that was remitted into his AmBank account. Najib gave Lim a similar answer when the lawyer asked for documentary evidence to show that US\$120 million in his account was not from SRC International or KWAP.

It was previously reported that SRC-BVI liquidator Angela Barkhouse, when testifying in the same trial, said the funds were deposited into Najib’s account in three tranches: US\$70 million on Dec 29, 2011, and US\$25 million each on March 12, 2012, and May



Former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak was evasive when queried over millions of ringgit in funds remitted into his AmBank personal account during proceedings in a civil suit filed by SRC International against him and its former chief executive. BERNAMA PIC

22, 2012, respectively.

It was the second day that Najib had been seen attempting to evade questions on the funds.

During Thursday’s proceedings, Lim had pressed Najib again over the US\$70 million that was channelled into his account, asking whether he had any documentary evidence to suggest that the funds were not misappropriated from SRC International or KWAP. Najib requested to revisit the matter at a later time.

Meanwhile, Najib said he could not oversee every detail of how the company’s funds were used, as that responsibility rested with the board and management.

“The company’s board and management are the key decision-makers, so I chose to support SRC (International) from a macro perspective. My goal was for SRC (International) to suc-

ceed in its mission of finding alternative energy for the country.

“The board and the management have to decide on the viability of investment, no PM in the world would because that is the work of technocrats not politicians.”

SRC International, under its new management, filed the suit in May 2021, claiming that Najib had committed a breach of trust and abuse of power, and had personally benefited from the company’s funds and had misappropriated the funds.

It is also seeking a court declaration that Najib is responsible for the company’s losses due to his breach of duties and trust and for Najib to pay back the RM42 million in losses it had suffered.

The trial before High Court judge Ahmad Fairuz Zainol Abidin continues.