

EX-COP TESTIFIES

# Witness: No direct evidence Najib ordered transfer of funds

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**T**HERE is no direct evidence to suggest that Datuk Seri Najib Razak instructed that funds from 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) be transferred for his personal use, the High Court heard.

Retired police officer R. Rajagopal said this was the finding of his investigation into the global financial scandal involving the sovereign wealth fund several years ago.

He said the probe also found no direct evidence that Najib, as the sole 1MDB shareholder, had instructed the 1MDB board of directors to act improperly.

Rajagopal was testifying as a defence witness in Najib's corruption trial.

The former prime minister is accused of misappropriating billions of ringgit in 1MDB funds. Rajagopal said his investigation focused on whether the 1MDB board of directors had made decisions in good

faith. The 11th defence witness said under 1MDB's memorandum and articles of association, all transactions must be decided by the board of directors and approved by the sole shareholder, namely Najib.

"There was no direct evidence showing Najib instructed where the money should go. I did not find any," he said when queried by Najib's lead counsel, Tan Sri Muhammad Shafee Abdullah.

On Monday, Rajagopal had revealed that portions of the misappropriated 1MDB funds had landed in Najib's personal bank accounts. He also agreed with the prosecution's suggestion that 1MDB's former top management — then chief executive officer Datuk Shahrol Azral Ibrahim Halimi, his successor Mohd Hazem Abdul Rahman and former chief financial officer Azmi Tahir — did not receive any money from the company.

Najib faces four charges of using his position to obtain RM2.3 billion in bribes from 1MDB funds and 21 charges of money laundering involving the same amount.

The trial continues.