

GRAFT PROBE

HUNDREDS OF DOCUMENTS UNDER REVIEW

They include Ismail Sabri's asset declarations as well as procurement and approval documents

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THE Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) is reviewing hundreds of key documents, including those on Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob's assets, as part of an investigation into corruption and money laundering.

It is learnt that the documents include asset declarations that the former prime minister made

on Feb 10.

It is believed documents on procurement processes and approvals are also under review. It is learnt these documents require verification from Ismail Sabri.

Ismail Sabri went to the MACC headquarters yesterday for the second day of questioning.

A source said the discovery of an unusually large amount of cash during the probe prompted a more extensive review of the documents.

"This is one of the reasons why Ismail Sabri has been summoned for questioning over several days. MACC officers need to examine hundreds of documents as part of the investigation. Among them are asset declarations he recently submitted to MACC.

"On asset seizures, MACC is taking measures to justify the large sum of cash and valuables



Former prime minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri leaving the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission headquarters in Putrajaya yesterday.

NSTP PIC BY SAIFULLIZAN TAMADI

discovered," the source said.

MACC Chief Commissioner Tan Sri Azam Baki confirmed that his officers were reviewing documents related to the probe, but declined to comment further.

On March 3, MACC declared that Ismail Sabri was a suspect in the corruption probe.

MACC said he was instructed to declare his assets under Section 36(1) of the MACC Act 2009 on Dec 11 last year and the asset declaration was submitted on Feb 10.

On Thursday, Ismail Sabri was questioned for almost six hours at the MACC headquarters.

Yesterday, he gave his statement over two sessions.

The investigation was delayed multiple times due to his health issues. Ismail Sabri had collapsed at his residence and was rushed to hospital on Feb 22.

At a press conference last week, MACC revealed the discovery of cash in multiple currencies and gold bars worth RM177 million.

The seizure was made during raids on three premises, including a "safehouse" in the capital.

The seized assets have been linked to expenses and fund procurement for promotions and publicity during Ismail Sabri's time in government.

MACC has frozen 13 bank accounts with some RM2 million as part of the investigation. It also arrested four people who served as aides to Ismail Sabri during his tenure as prime minister.

The probe is being conducted under the MACC Act 2009 and the Anti-Money Laundering Anti-Terrorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act 2001.