

MACC to record statement from Ismail Sabri today

> Former prime minister required to be present at Putrajaya headquarters to facilitate ongoing investigation into corruption and money laundering cases

KOTA KINABALU: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) will record a statement from former prime minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob today, said its chief commissioner Tan Sri Azam Baki.

He said the Bera MP is expected to appear at the MACC headquarters in Putrajaya to provide his statement at 10am as part of an ongoing investigation into corruption and money laundering cases linked to him.

He added that Ismail Sabri's medical certificate expired yesterday.

He said additional witnesses would also be called gradually to the MACC office in the near future to provide their statements.

Azam was speaking at a media conference after the signing of an MoU between the MACC and Kota Kinabalu City Hall on Tuesday.

At the signing ceremony, the MACC was represented by Sabah

MACC director Datuk S. Karunanithy while Kota Kinabalu City Hall was represented by Mayor Datuk Seri Dr Sabin Samitah, with Azam as a witness.

MACC sources reported that statements from 36 witnesses had been recorded to assist in the corruption and money laundering investigation involving Ismail Sabri, with an additional 23 witnesses set to be called soon.

Four of the 36 witnesses are believed to be Ismail Sabri's former officers who were previously detained and had their statements recorded on Monday.

Ismail Sabri was previously reported to have been admitted to a private medical centre after collapsing at his home on Feb 21. He was scheduled to appear at the MACC headquarters last Friday but did not attend due to

health issues.

On March 3, Azam said Ismail Sabri is a suspect in the investigation following the discovery of about RM170 million in cash at a safe house during a raid, Bernama reported.

The cash seized was of various international currencies, including Baht, Riyal, Pound Sterling, Won, Euro, Swiss Franc and Yuan. Also seized was 16kg of gold bullion estimated to be worth RM7 million.

The MACC has also reportedly frozen 13 bank accounts with over RM2 million as part of its ongoing investigation.

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