

Ismail Sabri called to MACC again to provide statement

> Former PM summoned to commission HQ for fifth time after failing to attend session yesterday

PUTRAJAYA: The recording of former prime minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob's statement at the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) headquarters over allegations of corruption and money laundering will be held today.

According to MACC sources, Ismail Sabri was unable to attend yesterday's statement recording session.

Media representatives had begun gathering outside the MACC headquarters as early as 9am yesterday to follow developments as Ismail Sabri was expected to provide his statement for a fifth time.

The MACC investigation into Ismail Sabri began on Dec 11, 2024, when he was ordered to declare his assets.

He officially submitted his declaration on Feb 10 and subsequently appeared at the MACC headquarters to give provide a statement on Feb 19.

Since then, he has been summoned several times to assist in the ongoing investigation.

Over the past week, he was present for five hours on March 13, almost six hours the next day and seven hours on Monday.

The investigation focuses on the expenditure and acquisition of funds for the promotion and publicity of the Keluarga Malaysia programme during Ismail Sabri's tenure as prime minister from August 2021 to November 2022.

On Monday, MACC chief commissioner Tan Sri Azam Baki was reported to have said several new files had been opened in relation to the investigation.

This followed new information received, with many more matters to be presented to Ismail Sabri.

Azam also said the investigation is being conducted in relation to corruption, abuse of power and money laundering.

According to him, the investigation is not only based on the original file related to the Keluarga Malaysia issue but also on new information and MACC intelligence, Bernama reported.

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

On March 3, Azam was reported to have said Ismail Sabri is a suspect in the investigation into the corruption and money laundering case.

This followed the discovery of about RM170 million in cash in various currencies and 16kg of gold bars in a safe house during an MACC raid.