

NAJIB FAILED TO EXPLAIN FLOW OF RM2.3B, COURT TOLD



'Donor claim already dismissed by other courts, says prosecution as defence rests

RAHMAT KHAIRULRIJAL
PUTRAJAYA
rahmat@nst.com.my

DATUK Seri Najib Razak failed to provide a convincing explanation over the source and

flow of funds credited into his personal accounts, the prosecution told the High Court yesterday.

Deputy public prosecutor Datuk Ahmad Akraam Gharib made the submission after the defence closed its case, stressing that the prosecution's case against the former prime minister over the alleged misappropriation of RM2.3 billion in 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) funds remained strong and unshaken.

He said Najib's defence was further weakened by the absence of any donors to corroborate his

claim that the funds constituted a donation from the late Saudi ruler, King Abdullah.

"Najib merely relied on four letters purportedly from the donor without providing any concrete evidence, such as authentic documents, witnesses, or the donor himself.

"What was presented was merely a story that has been rejected by the High Court and the Federal Court in his other corruption trial involving SRC International Sdn Bhd funds," Akram said.

The prosecutor added that the so-called Arab donation narra-

tive had been dismissed by the courts as unbelievable, untenable and implausible.

"Instead, the prosecution maintains that Najib abused his positions as prime minister and finance minister to influence decisions and actions within 1MDB, which ultimately resulted in billions of ringgit being channelled into his personal accounts."

Akram said evidence clearly showed that the former Pekan MP had a personal interest in 1MDB decisions and directly benefited when large sums of money were traced to his accounts.

He argued that Najib failed to demonstrate transparency or proper due diligence — standards expected of a prime minister or finance minister — when such vast sums were deposited into his personal accounts.

"The accused's attempt to distance himself from 1MDB's operational decisions is unacceptable, as evidence shows he directly intervened in several key company matters," he added.

Najib faces four charges of misappropriating RM2.3 billion in 1MDB funds and 21 charges of money laundering.

Trial continues.