

## **WSJ: Links found between 1MDB & PM's bank accounts**

**KINIBIZ ONLINE**

**July 3, 2015**

**By REUTERS**

Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak had close to US\$700 million (RM2.63 billion) in deposits from troubled state fund 1MDB wired into his personal account, the Wall Street Journal reported on Friday, citing documents from a government probe.

There were five deposits into Najib's account and the two largest transactions, worth US\$620 million and US\$61 million, were done in March 2013 during an election campaign in Malaysia, the newspaper said.

A Malaysian government spokesman told the newspaper that the prime minister had not taken any funds for personal use.

Reuters could not independently verify the newspaper report.

A spokesman for the prime minister's office told Reuters that a statement would be issued later in the day. He gave no immediate response to the report.

A spokesman for 1MDB was quoted by the Wall Street Journal as saying it was unaware of any such transactions and had not seen any documents to this effect. A fund spokesman told Reuters a statement would be issued "in the next couple of hours".

The state fund has faced a storm of criticism over its debt of nearly US\$11.6 billion and financial mismanagement. Najib chairs the fund's advisory board.

The fund is facing separate investigations by the country's central bank, auditor-general, police force and the parliament's Public Accounts Committee.

The auditor-general will present an interim report on its probe during a briefing with the Public Accounts Committee on July 9, The Edge Financial Daily said on Friday.

**— by Praveen Menon**

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Source: <http://www.kinibiz.com/story/corporate/176452/wsj-links-found-between-1mdb-pm%E2%80%99s-bank-accounts.html>