

Get Interpol on Jho Low's trail, says veteran newsman
The Malaysian Insider
March 12, 2015

The Malaysian team of investigators probing debt-ridden 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) should get Interpol's help to bring in businessman Low Taek Jho, or Jho Low, and make preserving evidence and other witnesses a top priority, veteran newsman Datuk A. Kadir Jasin said.

Writing in his blog, Kadir said "the first order of business is to ensure that evidence of criminal wrongdoing is (sic) preserved".

"It has to stop evidence from being erased or shredded and witnesses from disappearing.

"With some key witnesses and possible suspects in the 1MDB investigation residing abroad, including Jho Low, the task force should seek the assistance of Interpol to track them down," he wrote.

The police, Malaysian Anti-Corruption Agency (MACC) and the bipartisan Public Accounts Committee (PAC) in Parliament have all said they will move to investigate 1MDB following mounting pressure on the government to answer for the fund's dubious deals, with entities traced back to Low.

However, these agencies have also said they would only act after the Auditor-General completes an inspection of 1MDB's accounts, which has no timeframe.

Kadir said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak must make good on his promise to uncover any wrongdoing in 1MDB, following his directive to the national auditor to launch a fresh audit, and given his statement that he would enforce the law "without exception" against 1MDB if there was proof of wrong.

Najib, the architect of the government-owned fund as well as chairman of its advisory board, must also ensure investigators work "transparently and independently", added Kadir.

"The Inspector-General of Police, Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar, when asked by the press if the Prime Minister would be included in the investigation, Khalid replied, yes.

"If the Prime Minister has nothing to hide, he will happily cooperate with the investigators," Kadir (pic, right) wrote, adding that Najib should "prove that he is a man of his words".

On March 4, the Prime Minister's Office issued a statement directing the Auditor-General to "independently verify 1MDB's account" and pass on the findings to PAC.

"If any wrongdoing is proven, the law will be enforced without exception," Najib had

said.

This came after exposés by website Sarawak Report, which revealed conflict of interest deals between 1MDB and PetroSaudi International, and with UBG Bank, both of which Low was allegedly involved in. – March 12, 2015.

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