

**1MDB Issue: Early August Dates For Arul, Shahrol
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KUALA LUMPUR, June 10 (Bernama) -- The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) said 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) chief executive officer (CEO) Arul Kanda Kandasamy and former CEO Datuk Shahrol Halmi will have to appear before the PAC in early August for their statements on the 1MDB issue.

Its chairman, Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed said following their failure to appear before the PAC in May, both of them were being given another chance to do so on specified dates in the first week of August.

He said the dates would be officially announced soon.

"This time no more excuses, they must come...because of the fasting month and Aidilfitri coming up, and both being Muslims, we have to give them a chance to celebrate it first," he told a press conference after a PAC meeting at Parliament House Wednesday.

He said the PAC would also be calling up two other audit firms which had audited 1MDB's accounts, namely KPMG and Ernst & Young for questioning.

He said this was expected to be done next week.

Besides Arul and Shahrol, Nur Jazlan said PAC would also be calling up a Finance Ministry representative the same month (August).

He also did not dismiss the possibility of Bank Negara representatives and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak being called up if there was a need.

"The whole point of this exercise is actually to call the main actors, MOF, shareholders, management, auditors, and then the board (directors). After that we will get the big picture and decide who else to call to complete our report," he added.

The PAC had launched a probe to find out if there had been irregularities in the financial dealings in the debt-laden 1MDB.

On today's meeting with audit firm Deloitte & Co, Nur Jazlan said the PAC did not find any irregularities on the audit done on 1MDB's statement of accounts for its financial year ending March 31, 2014.

"We had also wanted to know whether 1MDB depended fully on government guarantees to operate and whether it is still a going concern as a sovereign fund, as this was not stated in the auditor's report," he said.

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