

Heed Musa Hitam's advice and go on leave, Kit Siang tells Najib
The Malaysian Insider
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A DAP leader today has urged Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak to heed the advice of a former mentor and go on leave, pending investigations into claims by The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) that US\$700 million was deposited into his personal accounts.

The party's parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang said this in response to the call made by former deputy prime minister Tun Musa Hitam, who told The Malaysian Insider that the best option for Najib now was to go on leave.

In the exclusive interview, Musa reportedly said Najib has three options: to remain in office and fight the allegations; resign as prime minister; or go on leave, pending investigations by a special government task force.

"Musa personally would prefer if Najib takes the third option to allow for an open and transparent investigation, as he holds dear to the legal maxim that one is innocent until proven guilty and this applies to Najib," said Lim.

Saying it was ridiculous for Najib to dictate the scope of the investigations of the task force, the Gelang Patah MP has suggested that the task force be replaced by a Royal Commission of Inquiry (RCI) made up of independent, reputable and credible Malaysians who will be under no restraints to get to the bottom of the 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) scandal.

"This is a test of Najib's patriotism, whether he is prepared to end the government paralysis caused by the 1MDB scandal... by immediately going on leave while investigations by an independent Royal Commission of Inquiry are initiated," he said.

He added that if Najib had nothing to hide, he should support the proposal for Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad to chair the RCI in the 1MDB scandal with commissioners to include his strongest critics, including opposition lawmakers Tony Pua and Rafizi Ramli.

He said Najib had yesterday advised Malaysians not to listen to nonsense on social media about him and his family and that "we will ensure that truth emerges in the end".

Lim said while he agreed that Malaysians should be fair to Najib based on the principle that one is innocent until proven guilty, he urged the prime minister to be fair to the nation as well, adding that Najib's silence on the claims by WSJ about having RM2.67 billion in his personal accounts was not consistent with his plea of innocence.

"Malaysians want Najib to declare without further ado whether the WSJ report was correct as far as his personal bank accounts in AmBank were concerned, and the deposit of RM2.6 billion on March 21 and 25, 2013 into his personal accounts, just

before the dissolution of Parliament on April 3, 2013.

"And if so, where the RM2.6 billion deposited into Najib's personal accounts in AmBank came from and where they have gone to?" – July 10, 2015.

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