

Anti-graft watchdog presses Najib, Rosmah to declare assets
The Malaysian Insider
July 12, 2015

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak and his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor are duty-bound to publicly declare their assets urgently, said an anti-graft watchdog said today, in the light of another revelation that RM2 million was deposited into Rosmah's private bank account.

"This is one of the last avenues left for Najib to restore credibility and waning public trust," Centre to Combat Corruption and Cronyism executive director Cynthia Gabriel said in a statement today.

"It is imperative that he reveals this now and save the country further embarrassment as our reputation as a nation has been battered, following the long-drawn 1MDB financial scandal, and after it was revealed on July 2 that RM2.6 billion (US\$700 million) was transferred to Najib's private bank accounts," she said referring to The Wall Street Journal's expose on state investment vehicle 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB).

Gabriel said in light of the expose, Malaysia would further tumble on "how much else had been misappropriated".

"Malaysia cannot be competitive globally nor can the country hope to be a major, successful international player in economy and finance when for the first time in history, a sitting prime minister is accused of serious embezzlement and corruption," she said.

Najib, she added, must emulate other Asian countries like Hong Kong and Indonesia, which had put in place systems to monitor illicit enrichment of public officials.

The WSJ reported that some US\$700 million (RM2.67 billion) from 1MDB were funnelled into Najib's accounts. It also uploaded documents on the money flow to support its report.

Najib has denied taking funds for personal gain, but as finance minister and chairman of 1MDB's advisory board, he is under scrutiny over the government-owned firm's opaque dealings and RM42 billion debt.

Gabriel said today that Najib's refusal to resign and inaction on reports by the WSJ and whistleblower Sarawak Report jeopardised the professionalism and integrity of key institutions like the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission.

"It is now a national duty for Najib and family to explain all accumulated wealth and monetary income in order to restore the massive trust deficit of Malaysians and salvage the independence of key institutions that govern the nation." she said. – July 12, 2015.

Copyright © 2015 Edge Insider Sdn Bhd

Source:

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/anti-graft-watchdog-presses-najib-rosmah-to-declare-assets>