

Malaysian police want access to Justo, says top cop
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By Muzliza Mustafa

Malaysian police have asked their Thai counterparts for a chance to talk to former PetroSaudi International director Xavier Andre Justo before deciding if any action should be taken against him, the inspector-general of police said today.

Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar said a request had been made with Thai police, and Malaysia was now waiting for them to finish their investigations on Justo.

"Let them finish with their work and we will see what we need to do after that," said Khalid.

Further talks on the matter will be held when Thailand's deputy police chief visit Malaysia on July 2, Khalid added.

Justo, who had allegedly leaked information linked to troubled state investor 1Malaysia Development Bhd's (1MDB) deal with PetroSaudi, was arrested on a Thai island on June 22 and sent to the capital Bangkok the day after.

He is currently being held by the Crime Suppression Division of the Royal Thai Police.

Numerous computers, hard drives and other pieces of evidence were seized during his arrest, which is to facilitate investigations into the leak of emails between PetroSaudi and 1MDB for the purpose of blackmail.

Justo has denied these allegations.

Malaysia's government now says that the emails and documents taken from PetroSaudi were tampered with, based on initial investigations by private cyber security firm Protection Group International (PGI).

Pro-government daily The New Straits Times was the first to break the news about PGI's findings after reports of Justo's arrest in Thailand.

It quoted an unnamed PGI expert as saying that the leaked documents had been edited so as to paint a negative picture of 1MDB.

1MDB also issued a statement after, saying that some of the leaked emails had been tampered with.

Justo is believed to have leaked the documents to UK-based website Sarawak Report, which then published an expose that the entire 1MDB-PetroSaudi joint venture deal was initiated by businessman Low Taek Jho and his team on September 8, 2009, less than a month before the deal was signed.

This was the deal in which Low allegedly siphoned off US\$700 million to a company he controlled, a claim he has denied.

Meanwhile, The Star Online last week reported Home Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi as saying that Malaysian individuals were believed to have asked Justo to tamper with certain facts before leaking the information to Sarawak Report.

This was apparently revealed by Justo, a Swiss national, during interrogation by Thai police. – June 29, 2015.

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