

Najib should sue WSJ over expose, says Zahid
The Malaysian Insider
July 4, 2015

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak should take legal action against The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) over its expose to clear his name and safeguard the country's image, said Home Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

He said the disclosure by the WSJ that almost US\$700 million (RM2.6 billion) had been deposited into the private bank accounts of Najib was an allegation which touched on the dignity of the national leadership.

"As an influential and respected international media institution, the WSJ should furnish firm evidence before making a serious accusation in a report.

"WSJ's action, which preceded the ongoing investigation, is definitely aimed at sensationalising news," he said.

Zahid spoke to reporters after handing over contributions to Hilir Perak Police personnel at its headquarters in Teluk Intan, Perak, today.

He said the person responsible for disseminating, what he claimed as inaccurate news, must assume full responsibility, and legal action would be taken by the authorities.

"As we are all aware, the attorney-general and the Public Accounts Committee are investigating the 1MDB issue. All quarters must wait for the outcome of the investigations before making any evaluation.

"We leave it to the prime minister to discuss with his lawyers or the attorney-general, which can be done in his capacity as an individual or as the prime minister," he said.

Zahid said his ministry would take action under the law against the media which published inaccurate information or information from invalid sources, with the aim of tarnishing the dignity of the government and country.

He said banking laws were subject to the Banking and Financial Institutions Act.

"Information regarded as banking official secrets should not be divulged, what more if the news comes from documents which were not validated by the banks. This is outside the purview of journalism ethics," he said. – Bernama, July 4, 2015.

Copyright © 2015 Edge Insider Sdn Bhd

Source:

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/najib-should-sue-wsj-over-expose-says-zahid>