

Will A-G take action against Najib, asks DAP
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Will the attorney-general take action against Datuk Seri Najib Razak if evidence showed that the prime minister was guilty of having billions of ringgit from state funds pumped into his personal bank accounts, asks DAP.

Citing the Federal Constitution, DAP parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang today said Article 145(3) states that the attorney-general had the power to institute, at his discretion, any charge for any offence.

"Article 145(3) is very clear that the attorney-general can charge and prosecute the prime minister, but would Gani do so if the circumstances for such an unusual and unprecedented action arise?" Lim, referring to Attorney-General Tan Sri Abdul Gani Patail, said in a statement.

"Gani owes the Malaysian public an explanation what actions he has taken after examining the documents on which The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) has grounded its allegations against the prime minister."

Lim also said he would ask for a meeting with Gani next week to seek an explanation on these "momentous developments".

This comes after Gani revealed today that a task force raided three companies linked to funds allegedly channelled to Najib's personal bank accounts, adding that he received investigation papers on the matter.

He said in a statement that he had gone through the documents and gave further advice and directives to the task force consisting of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC), police and Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM).

The WSJ yesterday reported that the three companies had funnelled some US\$700 million (RM2.6 billion) to Najib's personal accounts in AmBank Private Banking in Malaysia.

The article, which was also carried by whistleblower site Sarawak Report, said the money was moved among government agencies, banks and entities linked to 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) into his five personal accounts.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin today said that authorities must investigate WSJ's claims as they were serious and jeopardised Najib's credibility as the prime minister and leader of the Malaysian government.

In welcoming Muhyiddin's stance, Lim said it was appropriate that Najib go on leave to allow a thorough and professional investigation to be carried out on the allegations.

"During the investigation into the allegations against the Prime Minister, Najib should

go on leave as it is inconceivable that any thorough, professional and credible investigation into any sitting Prime Minister could be carried out," the Gelang Patah MP said.

"As the Deputy Prime Minister has spoken with candour that there should be an investigation into WSJ allegations against Najib in the WSJ report yesterday, Najib should do what is right and honourable for the country."

The DAP veteran leader also suggested that a time-frame be given for the investigation to be completed to allow the prime minister to resume his duties without any undue delay.

"Najib should not put the country under a cloud of disgrace and infamy for having a Prime Minister against whom grave allegations of Prime Ministerial misconduct and even criminal offences had been made by an internationally reputable global publication, and he should take leave until the investigations are completed.

"Justice must not only be done, but must be seen to be done – and this is particularly pertinent and relevant where an investigation into allegations against the Prime Minister is concerned," he added.

Both WSJ and Sarawak Report quoted documents from the 1MDB probe that was being carried out by the Malaysian government, with the latter saying the attorney-general was also aware of the information.

The WSJ said documents showed that US\$700 million (RM2.67 billion) was moved among government agencies, banks and entities linked to 1MDB and finally ended up in the prime minister's personal accounts in five separate deposits.

Najib, however, denied using public funds in a Facebook posting yesterday. Today, a Malay daily reported that he would take legal action against the WSJ. – July 4, 2015.

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