

## **Umno lawmaker urges Najib to explain status of 1MDB probe**

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**By Diyana Ibrahim**

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak must immediately explain what will happen to 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) probe following the sacking of former Attorney-General (A-G) Tan Sri Abdul Gani Patail, who was part of the task force investigating the state investment fund, an Umno lawmaker said today.

Kulim Bandar Baharu MP Datuk Abdul Aziz Sheikh Fadzir said that Najib should explain this as the abrupt removal of Gani from his position in the midst of the investigations could paint a negative image on the government.

"What we are worried about, from an institution point of view, is that when the A-G is sacked at the last minute. We know there is a probe and it is in its last stages. This gives a negative image of the government.

"I hope the prime minister can explain the status of the probe being conducted by the special task force into 1MDB," he said when met outside the house of former deputy prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin in Bukit Damansara, Kuala Lumpur today.

Aziz, a member of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), which is also conducting its own inquiry into the debt-ridden state investment vehicle, also said four members of the bipartisan panel, including its chairman, have been appointed as deputy ministers in the latest Cabinet reshuffle.

He said, for now, the appointment of new PAC members would be determined by the Dewan Rakyat Speaker in the next parliamentary session in October.

Meanwhile, he said Najib's move to appoint three PAC members into his Cabinet will not disrupt the body's own probe into 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) accounts.

He said although there will be new appointments soon, investigations on the state investment vehicle would go on as planned.

"We are not rushing into making a hasty decision, because you (1MDB) will not be able to run away from answering.

"I too want to know the truth because 1MDB is one of the biggest scandals to hit the nation.

"Everything appeared to be happening at the same time... you (Najib) drop the Attorney-General on Monday and then on Tuesday, you change the PAC line-up... This will bring about a negative perception."

Aziz also said that his presence in Muhyiddin's house today was merely to provide

moral support for the Umno deputy president.

"He is still in Umno, although now a former deputy prime minister."

Four PAC members were appointed as ministers and deputy ministers in a Cabinet reshuffle on Tuesday, raising questions as to its ongoing proceedings, including inquiry into 1MDB, which is to continue next week.

PAC chairman Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed has been appointed the deputy home minister, while Datuk Seri Reezal Merican Naina Merican is now deputy foreign minister and Datuk Mas Ermieyati Samsudin is deputy tourism and culture minister.

Another member Datuk Wilfred Madius Tangau is the new science, technology and innovation minister. – July 30, 2015.

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