

**Najib's critics take fight global as investigations obstructed in Malaysia**  
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After allegations that billions of ringgit were transferred into Datuk Seri Najib Razak's personal accounts first surfaced in a report by The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) on July 2, investigations into the matter stumbled. Now, the prime minister's opponents have taken their fight global.

One of Najib's critics, former Umno leader Datuk Seri Khairuddin Abu Hassan, has lodged a report with the British police against troubled 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) and PetroSaudi International over alleged money laundering.

Khairuddin was accompanied by his lawyer, Matthias Chang, an aide of former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said that this was the biggest scandal Malaysia has ever had.

Khairuddin, in an interview with The New York Times, said: "This is the biggest financial scandal we've ever had in our country. But those who are involved in the investigation of this case are being arrested and questioned by the police."

Dr Mahathir, Najib's supporter-turned-detractor, has openly called for the prime minister to resign over the 1MDB scandal and a myriad of other issues.

Meanwhile, Swiss authorities have begun their investigation into 1MDB.

Switzerland's Office of the Attorney-General (OAG) has opened criminal proceedings relating to 1MDB, a spokesman said in August.

"The Office of the Attorney-General confirms that, on August 14, 2015, it opened a criminal procedure against two entities of 1MDB as well as against an unknown person," the OAG spokesman said in an email.

The case involved "suspected corruption of public foreign officials, dishonest management of public interests and money laundering", he said.

The criminal proceedings follow two communications from the Money Laundering Reporting Office Switzerland (MROS) the spokesman added.

WSJ said the source of the funds was unknown, but they had flowed through 1MDB-linked entities in various tranches, the largest of which – US\$681 million (RM2.6 billion) – was channelled into Najib's accounts in March 2013, ahead of the general election in May that year.

MACC had said that the RM2.6 billion which had been funnelled into Najib's accounts was a donation and not money from 1MDB.

Putrajaya had later said the RM2.6 billion was from a Middle Eastern donor whose identity has not been revealed. – September 13, 2015.

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