

Is Najib afraid of Khairuddin, asks DAP after travel ban
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DAP today asked if Datuk Seri Najib Razak is afraid of Datuk Seri Khairuddin Abu Hassan, following the travel ban on the former Umno leader as he was about to depart to meet US federal law enforcers over troubled 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB).

DAP parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang was also mystified as to why Khairuddin, who is another of Najib's critics, was remanded for six days, which Lim described as excessive and punitive.

"Furthermore, why was Khairuddin investigated under Section 124(C) of the Penal Code relating to 'activities detrimental to parliamentary democracy', when Parliament was assured that this new provision was meant only to deal with terrorists or those who want to overthrow the government by violent or unconstitutional means?" he asked in a statement today.

Yesterday, a magistrate allowed police to hold Khairuddin in custody until Thursday. He is being investigated under Section 124 of the Penal Code for activities detrimental to parliamentary democracy, his counsel Matthias Chang said.

Khairuddin's arrest on Friday made international news, with The New York Times reporting yesterday that he was to meet agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on Monday.

He was supposed to leave for the United States on Friday morning together with Chang but both were stopped from leaving the country by immigration officials at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

Lim said with or without Khairuddin's information, the FBI had started its probe into debt-laden 1MDB, which has incurred RM42 billions in debt in six years of operations and is currently under various probes for alleged financial irregularities.

"Another country has joined the queue to initiate investigations over Malaysia's 1MDB and money laundering offences, joining countries like Singapore, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Hong Kong.

"Is Malaysia becoming an international rogue state?" Lim asked.

The Gelang Patah MP also said it was "anathema" to think of the Malaysian prime minister being treated like war criminals such as Sudanese president Omar al-Bashir, in reference to former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's remarks that Najib might be arrested by Interpol if foreign countries investigate the prime minister for alleged money laundering,

He said Malaysia was being pounded daily by a surfeit of lack of integrity issues and

problems, which he claimed was hurtling the country down the slippery slope of a failed state.

"What has Malaysia been reduced to 58 years after Merdeka and 52 years after Malaysia?" he asked. – September 20, 2015.

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