

Former A-G Gani consulted Special Branch on cases, ex-deputy director says
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By Muzliza Mustafa

Former Special Branch deputy director Datuk Abdul Hamid Bador revealed tonight that former attorney-general Tan Sri Abdul Gani Patail had consulted the police intelligence unit on various matters that impacted national security.

Admitting that he and Gani had met at the latter's house two days before the public prosecutor was removed from his post, Hamid questioned if that was the reason for his transfer out of the Special Branch and into "cold storage" at a new security unit in the Prime Minister's Department.

In a statement to The Malaysian Insider, Hamid said he was directing his questions at Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, who had personally informed him of his transfer.

Hamid questioned if his transfer was due to his outspokenness on the slow pace of investigations into debt-ridden investment firm 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB).

Hamid said he was insulted with how his transfer was handled.

"I feel insulted to the lowest level... as if I am not entitled to wear the police badge. It makes me wonder if it has anything to do with me being at Tan Sri Gani Patail's house or solely because I have been constantly criticising the direction and the slow progress in the 1MDB investigation," he said, without specifying what matters he had discussed with Gani.

"Tan Sri Gani and I in the past met few times where we discussed many issues especially those that have implications on the safety and security of the country.

"Gani has often asked the Special Branch for views on various matters."

He said his meeting with Gani at his home lasted a few hours two days prior to Gani's removal as attorney-general on July 28.

Gani had been a member of a special task force that was in the midst of probing into the Finance Ministry-owned 1MDB.

Hamid said if his transfer was "punishment" for meeting Gani, it was very "cruel".

Blaming Zahid, who is also the home minister and oversees the police force, Hamid said, "Has he not realised that I am a career officer in the police force and not a political lackey?"

"I want an answer from Datuk Seri Zahid on the reason I was kicked out because he was the one who delivered the news to me. He would know why."

He also questioned if the decision on his transfer was made at a special meeting chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, which Zahid was also present.

"Many have labelled me as a sore loser because transfers are normal among senior police officers, with many being seconded to ministries and government departments to carry out special duties.

"They were right if that truly happened. But that was not what happened in my case," said Hamid.

The former Special Branch deputy director said his case was "extraordinary" because the instruction on his transfer had come from the deputy prime minister.

He added that as a home minister, Zahid should have defended him.

Hamid said that until now, he still had no proper designation despite having reported for duty on September 1.

He was transferred out of the Special Branch mid-August to a new transnational crime division reporting directly to the prime minister. – September 6, 2015.

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