

Opposition must reveal their sources of funds, BN lawmakers say

Malay Mail Online

October 27, 2015

On August 14, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak announced the formation of the bipartisan panel to gather input for a law to regulate political funding. – File pic

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 27 – Several Barisan Nasional (BN) MPs yesterday urged the opposition, especially DAP and PKR, to reveal the source of their funds, claiming they have refused to be transparent to the public.

Speaking to Malay daily *Utusan Malaysia*, Kuala Selangor MP Datuk Irmohizam Ibrahim said the opposition should not pressure the ruling coalition to reveal its account transparently if the two parties themselves could not be “honest”.

“I demand and challenge the opposition to reveal their political funds if it is true they are always fighting for transparency in their struggle.

“I also urge the government to be swift with political funding laws in Malaysia,” Irmohizam was quoted as saying.

Domestic Trade deputy Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Bashah Md Hanipah also said that the opposition should first reveal their own accounts before demanding the same of others.

“If they are demanding that thing, prove their own seriousness in the issue. BN will explain this issue in this Dewan Rakyat sitting, when is their turn?” the Umno senator said, referring to transparency.

On August 14, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak announced the formation of the bipartisan panel to gather input for a law to regulate political funding, saying this was necessary to ensure the country practiced “healthy” politics.

Najib denied the idea was a result of the furore over the RM2.6 billion amount that was deposited into his personal accounts and said to be a donation, and said the panel was a follow-up to his pledge to regulate political fundings in 2009.

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