

Putrajaya sidesteps poser on Najib's RM42 million

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By Eileen Ng

Putrajaya has declined to answer an opposition MP's query on some RM42 million deposited into Datuk Seri Najib Razak's personal accounts from Finance Ministry-owned firm SRC International Sdn Bhd, citing ongoing investigations into the matter.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Azalina Othman Said said it was "not appropriate" for Najib to address this as it was being investigated by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC).

"MACC is investigating the matter and it is not appropriate for the prime minister to give any answer for the time being.

"As the member of Parliament for Pekan, the prime minister will receive funds for political activity in his constituency which will be channelled to political programmes, welfare and social activities for local residents," she said in a written reply to Teo Nie Ching (DAP - Kulai).

Teo had asked if SRC International, through Ihsan Perdana, donated RM42 million to the prime minister and if other government-linked corporations had done the same thing.

Business daily The Wall Street Journal (WSJ) and whistle-blower site Sarawak Report revealed in July that RM50 million was transferred from SRC to its subsidiary Gandingan Mentari and then to another subsidiary, Ihsan Perdana.

Ihsan Perdana then transferred the RM42 million to Najib's account via a transaction between December 2014 and February this year.

WSJ also reported that RM2.6 billion was deposited into Najib's personal accounts ahead of the 2013 general election, which MACC said was a political donation.

Najib has repeatedly denied taking public funds for personal use. – October 21, 2015.

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