

Najib to answer RM2.6 billion question this Parliament sitting, says PM's lawyer
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By Jennifer Gomez

Datuk Seri Najib Razak will be answering questions about the RM2.6 billion in his personal accounts in the current Parliament sitting, his lawyer said today in asking the High Court for an early date to hear the prime minister's request to strike out a suit on the donation.

Lawyer Datuk Hafarizam Harun said he did not want Najib's answer in Parliament to impact on the hearing.

"I asked for early case management and early hearing date as the PM is due to answer the question on the RM2.6 billion in Parliament and I don't want the answer in Parliament to have a bearing on the hearing here and vice-versa.

"Whatever argued here will not be raised in Parliament when the PM answers the question on the RM2.6 billion," he told reporters at the court today.

The High Court had set November 11 for final case management for all parties to file affidavits in reply in a suit against Najib, Umno secretary-general Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor, 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) and the Election Commission.

The civil suit, brought by opposition party PKR, is seeking to nullify the results of the 13th general election over election offences allegedly committed by the Najib following the transfer of RM2.6 billion into his personal bank accounts.

The funds had flowed through 1MDB-linked entities, with a large chunk transferred before the 13th general election in May 2013.

Hafarizam had wanted the court to set November 4 for case management, but lawyer for the plaintiffs, Michelle Kumar, asked for a later date, which judge Datuk Mohd Zaki Abdul Wahab granted.

Later after proceedings, Hafarizam said his client was going to answer about the RM2.6 billion in Parliament soon, and as such, he wanted the striking out to be disposed of before that.

"I want the striking out to be disposed of so that when PM answers in Parliament, this case be cleared of any judicial debate, only political or parliamentary debate.

"So my instructions are to proceed with this application at breakneck speed." – October 27, 2015.

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