

I'll be proven right, Najib says of 1MDB, RM2.6 billion
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By Anisah Shukry

Umno president Datuk Seri Najib Razak today asserted his innocence of alleged financial scandal, telling delegates at the party's annual general assembly today that controversies involving 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) and the RM2.6 billion donation were being addressed.

He said he was in the right despite the allegations thrown at him, and that there was a solution for every problem.

In his policy speech at the assembly, the embattled prime minister said he was confident the truth would come out.

"On 1MDB, I would like to inform you that it is being managed and in the process of being resolved," he said when officiating the opening of the assembly, adding that the sale of the state-owned investor's energy assets recently had reduced its debts by RM17 billion.

He said this proved 1MDB's rationalisation plan was on track, and said it would be followed up with other announcements to convince the people the problem would be resolved.

"Touching on the RM2.6 billion, this issue has been answered in the Parliament sitting recently by the deputy prime minister, that the money is a donation from abroad and not from 1MDB."

He said he had also explained the issue in detail to delegates during the presidency's briefing.

"What's important is that I am confident I am on the right side, and the truth will be proven."

Najib said he would not give up in the face of the challenges thrown at him, and would instead see all the problems through while remaining Umno president.

He said this was because leaders were not born in "lecture rooms", but in arenas and through trials and tribulation.

"When we are faced with problems, we cannot run away from it. That is my principle," said Najib, who is facing calls to step down or go on leave amid the ongoing investigation into 1MDB and the donation. – December 10, 2015.

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