

**MACC says it again, no-nonsense probe into SRC, RM2.6 billion
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The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has again denied any interference in its probe into SRC International and the RM2.6 billion in Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak's private accounts.

The anti-graft body said the investigation team had received explicit orders from its chief, Tan Sri Abu Kassim Mohamed, to act independently when deciding whether to recommend that the case be brought to court.

"If there is a case, it is our responsibility to propose the charges in the investigation papers that will be submitted to the attorney-general next week. And vice versa," MACC director of special operations, Datuk Bahri Mohamad Zin said in a statement today.

"MACC's top management is of the stance that this matter is important to ensure that all quarters know that MACC has acted professionally and independently the entire time."

Bahri was responding to veteran journalist Datuk A Kadir Jasin's fears that Abu Kassim was claiming the agency's independence in order to protect Najib.

Kadir had said that by insisting MACC was credible, the public would be forced to accept an outcome that was favourable for the PM.

"On behalf of MACC, I guarantee that the investigation into SRC International and the RM2.6 billion donation will be managed independently, transparently and professionally," said Bahri today.

In an interview with Sinar Harian, [Abu Kassim said](#) the anti-graft body was free from outside influence and would not budge from its findings.

Even though there are all sorts of perceptions about these issues, as long as I am the chief commissioner, I will carry out investigations professionally.

"When we have a case, we will present our recommendations in the investigation paper. And they are truly based on merit.

"No other quarters will influence us and the investigation's direction. That was the promise I made to the MACC officers in a meeting," Abu Kassim was quoted as saying.

This prompted Kadir, a vocal critic of Najib, to write in a blog post yesterday that he would [give MACC the benefit of the doubt](#) despite his fears.

"Let us pray that Abu Kassim was stating the truth because deep in my heart, I fear that it could be a ruse," said Kadir in his blog.

"I fear that his proclamation of independence has a hidden reason – to establish credibility so that if ever the MACC were to find no case against Mohd Najib, the public would be forced to believe it."

Najib had said the RM2.6 billion deposited into his personal bank accounts was a donation and the transactions were above board.

The prime minister also denied the RM2.6 billion was from public funds or linked to state-owned investment firm 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB).

Last July, The Wall Street Journal cited investigation documents which showed that the money came from firms linked to 1MDB. Putrajaya has denied the claim. – December 27, 2015.

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