

PKR moots independent prosecutor to reopen Najib probe
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Parliament should appoint a special independent prosecutor from among non-partisan law practitioners to reopen investigations on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, said PKR lawmaker Rafizi Ramli.

The Pandan MP said the independent prosecutor should review the investigation papers by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) and Bank Negara into Najib's RM2.6 billion donation, as well as into Finance Ministry-owned firm SRC International which allegedly funneled RM42 million of the funds into the prime minister's accounts.

"I will talk to the other MPs with legal background on drawing up a motion to push this forward in the next parliament sitting in March.

"If Najib thinks the joke by (Attorney-General) Tan Sri Mohamed Apandi Ali yesterday will close this case, he is underestimating the minds of the people," Rafizi said in a statement today.

Apandi yesterday announced that Najib was free of criminal wrongdoing in receiving funds to his private bank accounts and over Cabinet approval for a RM4 billion loan given to SRC International.

Apandi also said Najib had returned US\$620 million to Saudi donors, out of the US\$681 million (RM2.6 billion) given.

He said there was no evidence to show that the donation was a form of gratification given corruptly, and declared the case against Najib closed.

Rafizi, who is also PKR vice-president and secretary-general, said the people could not accept Apandi's decision, adding that the excuse that Najib had returned the money was illogical and that there were still basic issues left unanswered.

"It is as if Apandi has forgotten about SRC International being a company wholly owned by the Ministry of Finance Incorporated.

"This is why I had been asking who was responsible of approving the transfer, because the top officer was none other than Najib, who is finance minister," he said, referring to the RM42 million that SRC International reportedly transferred through other companies to Najib's private accounts.

Apandi told reporters yesterday that Najib had not been aware that SRC International had transferred the funds into his personal accounts.

SRC International's role was first exposed by The Wall Street Journal and website Sarawak Report in July last year.

Rafizi said Najib could not claim ignorance about the fund transfers because as finance minister, he was the top officer responsible for the decisions by SRC International.

"It is impossible that he did not know about the decision to transfer the funds. There is a huge possibility he knew and the transfer took place with approval as per ministry procedures.

"If that is the case, Najib should be charged with breach of trust because funds from a public company under his control was moved into his personal account."

If Najib insisted that he was unaware, it would mean that he had been negligent in his duties in managing a public company and should be charged with negligence, Rafizi added.

"In both scenarios, there are solid grounds to charge him." – January 27, 2016.

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