

## **Parliament: RM2.6 Billion Donation Issue Cannot Be Debated In Dewan Rakyat As It Is Sub Judice - Speaker**

**Bernama**

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KUALA LUMPUR, March 31 (Bernama) -- Dewan Rakyat Speaker Tan Sri Pandikar Amin Mulia on Thursday ruled that the issue of the RM2.6 billion political donation cannot be debated in Dewan Rakyat as it is sub judice.

Pandikar Amin, in a note to Members of Parliament, said the decision was made after considering a judicial review filed by the Bar Council at the Kuala Lumpur High Court on March 14.

The decision also took into account a writ of summons filed against Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak on March 23.

"After considering the issues raised, I am of the view that this matter is under the consideration of the court (sub judice), which if discussed may damage the interests of the parties involved in the writ of summons," he said.

The Bar Council made an application for judicial review to set aside the decision of Attorney-General Tan Sri Mohamed Apandi Ali not to proceed with the indictment against Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak in connection with the RM2.6 billion fund and directed the Anti-Corruption Commission to close their investigation.

"The writ of summons specifically referred to issues related to the RM2.6 billion. In this case, the issue has become a matter which is subject to the consideration of the court, same as the principles applicable to the judicial review filed against the Attorney-General," said Pandikar Amin.

The result, he said, was in accordance with Standing Order 23(1)(g) which allocated that any matter that is under consideration of the court cannot be asked in the Dewan Rakyat, other than Standing Order 36(2) that a matter which is under the consideration of the court cannot be debated if the chairman is of the view it can affect and damage the interests of the parties involved.

At the Dewan Rakyat last week, several opposition members of Parliament raised their dissatisfaction for not being allowed to debate the issue.

Gobind Singh Deo (DAP-Puchong) and Sim Tze Tzin (PKR-Bayan Baru) had even questioned the ruling and urged the Speaker to decide on the matter.

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