

Need For Detail Delayed Tabling Of PAC Report On 1MDB - PAC Chairman
Bernama
April 8, 2016

KUALA LUMPUR, April 8 (Bernama) -- The delay in the tabling of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) report on 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) in the Dewan Rakyat was due to the report having to be in detail, said PAC chairman Datuk Hasan Arifin.

He said it would not have been right for the PAC to announce an incomplete outcome of investigations without accessing up-to-date information from as many sources as possible.

"There are allegations that changes in the PAC membership also altered the direction of the proceedings but these claims are unfounded," he said in an interview with Bernama here Friday.

"If you read the PAC report, nothing was overlooked," he said.

Asked if the report was examined and verified by independent bodies outside Malaysia or outside the influence of government, Hasan said the PAC's was a tried and tested model, and was similar to the models in other Commonwealth countries.

"It is a respected body and the process is one that has long existed in democratic countries including the United Kingdom, New Zealand and South Africa, to name a few countries.

"It is an important platform for accountability, and it has been practised by the international community," he said.

Hasan also said that the PAC had proven to be a body with the experience to conduct detailed investigations, often reaching a difficult conclusion.

"This proves that members of the PAC are free from any interference, bias or pressure from external parties," he said.

Asked if the PAC had worked with the governments of the United States, Switzerland and Australia in the investigation into 1MDB, Hasan said the PAC scope was to conduct a thorough evaluation of 1MDB based on the report and proceedings of the National Audit Department.

He said the PAC had never been contacted by any external body on the 1MDB, neither did it see any need to get in touch with any outside entity.

Asked if the PAC would take legal action against those who had made allegations against 1MDB, Hasan said it was up to the relevant authorities to decide on the next move.

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