

'Muhyiddin should have checked'

Former DPM had authority to demand answers about 1MDB, says Najib

KUALA LUMPUR: Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin should have gathered more information on 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) while he was still the deputy prime minister, said Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

"As the deputy prime minister then, he had the right to call the management of 1MDB to seek further clarification," said the Prime Minister in an interview with TV3 in conjunction with Umno General Assembly 2015 here.

The video of the interview has been uploaded on the website www.newsplus.my/live-tv.

Najib said Muhyiddin had also discussed the matter with him and that he had given him an explanation.

"There is no real excuse not to get information. Everything about

1MDB can be known," said the Umno president when asked if Muhyiddin had not received the full details about 1MDB.

The Prime Minister also said while it was true that the 1MDB had debts, its assets were more.

"We have a rationalisation plan, and this situation would not have happened if we had launched the initial public issue in November 2014.

"When the sentiments were too negative and the issue politicised, the atmosphere at that time did not encourage investors' confidence to buy shares in 1MDB.

"Give us time to prove that 1MDB can be resolved.

"The Cabinet has agreed and I have made an announcement and we are in the process of resolving



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the 1MDB problem," he said.

On the RM2.6bil donation deposited into his account, he said the matter had already been verified by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC), which had also found the donors and obtained their statements.

"I have not committed any offence or malpractice; this has been explained at the Parliament by the Deputy Prime Minister (Datuk

Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi)," he added.

Asked why the fund was deposited into his account, Najib said it was the donor's wish and that the donation was made in a personal capacity.

He said Bank Negara was notified when the account was created.

"The account is in my name, but it is not like a personal account. And I am sure that once the investigation is complete, the truth will prevail," he said.

The MACC on Monday confirmed sending its officials to the Middle East to meet with the donor.

Its investigation director Datuk Azam Baki said they would submit a report to the Attorney-General as soon as investigations were completed.

Najib also urged the *rakyat* to think positive and have confidence in the country's economic management, in line with the confidence level of investors and international rating institutions.

He said international bodies such as the International Monetary Fund, World Bank and international rating agencies such as Standard & Poor's, Fitch Ratings and Moody's Investors Service had given the country positive ratings.

"It's not towards downgrading Malaysia. In fact they gave their compliments on Malaysia's economic management," he said.

Najib said news of the confidence of these international bodies should be disseminated to the *rakyat* to show that much had been done by the Government. — Bernama