

'Tell-all talk open to the public'

KUALA LUMPUR: 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) president and group executive director Arul Kanda Kandasamy will speak at a tell-all presentation on Saturday to address issues plaguing the company.

The "Majlis Penerangan Perdana" (MPP) event, organised by the Umno Information Department, will also see International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed and Second Finance Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah shedding light on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and 2016 Budget, respectively.

Umno information chief Datuk Ahmad Maslan said the event, to be held at the Putra World Trade Centre here, was open to the public, adding that a turnout of 1,000 was expected.

"The event is open to all to attend, so that the three issues can be better understood.

"Our target audience comprises Umno divisional-level leaders, Barisan Nasional leaders, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), government agencies, private corporations, youth and university students.

"Representatives from media organisations are welcome, including those from online portals and social media.

"MPP will be a platform for the speakers to explain about 1MDB, TPP and the recently-tabled budget, and quash rumours surround-

ing them," he said here yesterday.

Ahmad, who is also deputy international trade and industry minister, said the event was an opportunity for the public to have a dialogue with the three speakers.

"Party leaders and NGOs can use the information obtained at the event to explain the issues to the grassroots."

Asked whether the pending Public Accounts Committee (PAC) hearing would allow Arul to speak at the event, Ahmad said Arul, who had agreed to attend, had appeared on television and in press conferences in the past. He said MPP would not involve PAC members.

"It is not like the Arul-Tony Pua debate. Pua is a PAC member and Arul is not. Arul has said he would attend on Saturday."

Arul, Mustapa and Husni will be given 45 minutes to present and another 45 minutes to answer questions. The event will begin at 8am and end at 1.30pm.

Ahmad said MPP was a curtain-raiser for the Umno general assembly next month.

"I believe that 1MDB, TPP and the 2016 Budget will be the most talked-about issues at this year's assembly. I urge all speakers for the Umno general assembly to attend."

Those interested to attend can contact the event secretariat at 03-4042-9511/4048-2656/4050-3327 or send a fax to 03-4045-6433.



Datuk Ahmad Maslan