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Najib: Tsunami funds given out
[Tan Choe Choe](#)

MALACCA: The funds for tsunami victims have all been disbursed to help those affected by the disaster, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said yesterday.

But he will ask the National Security Division of the Prime Minister's Department for a detailed report. "Then, we will get a clearer picture," he said. Najib was commenting on the Auditor-General's statement in his 2005 report that an excess amount of RM6.7 million had not been returned to the Treasury. It was reported yesterday that an investigation into the misuse of funds for tsunami victims would be proposed by the Prime Minister's Department at the next post-Cabinet meeting, based on several observations by the Auditor-General in his 2005 report.

The A-G's report, which was tabled in Parliament last Friday, had highlighted the mismanagement of millions of ringgit used to build and repair houses as well as for the repair and purchase of fishing nets, outboard motors and boats for tsunami victims. Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Nazri Aziz had said that RM78.95 million had been collected for the tsunami funds, and that the account was closed and there was no excess to be returned to the Treasury. "We have closed the account. Probably, the Auditor-General's report was made before the account was closed," Nazri was quoted as saying. Najib was here to close the "Melayu Melaka Maju 2010" convention (Malacca Malays to Progress by 2010) at the Malacca International Trade Centre. He told delegates that the best way forward for Malays was to innovate.

"Be creative and break from the usual mould of doing things or else we will never advance as a race." The convention, organised by Malacca Umno, was attended by Malacca Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Rustam, who is also Umno vice-president and the Malacca Umno liaison chief. In George Town, a company building homes for tsunami victims said the job would be completed by next month. A spokesman for Syarikat Perumahan Negara Bhd said work on the 100-unit flats in Tanjung Bungah was delayed due to the eviction of squatters living on the site. On Monday, Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon had instructed SPNB to speed up construction of the flats. The company was given about RM8 million to build the three-bedroom flats for 100 tsunami victims, who are now living at a transit home in Jalan Batu Ferringhi.