

**1. Najib tells civil servants: Rakyat must always remain pillar of govt policies**

PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said the people should always be the main pillar for all government policies. He urged civil servants to focus on people-centric matters such as transport, housing and cost of living. "We should never let our focus waiver on what matters the most, which is the people," he said at the Prime Minister's Department Hari Raya celebration today. Also present were Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Dr Ali Hamsa and other ministers including Education Minister Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid, Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam, and other ministers in the Prime Minister's Department. The prime minister spent time with more than 3,000 staff of the Prime Minister's Department for its hari raya celebration. Najib arrived after chairing the cabinet meeting accompanied by his wife, Datin Rosmah Mansor. He visited 12 food stations inside the hall at the Putrajaya International Conference Centre. The food stations served a wide spread of delicacies ranging from nasi bukhara, lemong, rendang to satay.

**2. IGP: First phase of police probe into 1MDB almost completed**

KUALA LUMPUR: Police have almost completed their first phase of investigations into 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB). The second phase, expected to start soon, will see officers from the Federal police headquarters deployed overseas to acquire documents related to the probe and to record statements from witnesses abroad. Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar said investigators have so far recorded statements from more than 25 witnesses. These include former 1MDB chief executive officer Shahrol Azhar Ibrahim Halmi. "The first phase involves analysing documents and recording statements from witnesses in Malaysia. "The next step is to send our officers overseas to acquire more documents and record statements from witnesses abroad. "This will take time. Everybody wants us to do a good job, so we have to do it properly which requires time," he told reporters at the Police Training Centre in Jalan Semarak, here, Thursday. Khalid said the investigation is expected to enter the second phase soon after they tie up all loose ends. He said the team will start their probe overseas after receiving the go-ahead from the witnesses. "We are not going to go witch-hunting. We must make arrangements for them to be prepared before we meet them, record their statements and study the documents." On the US Department of Justice's civil proceedings regarding 1MDB and alleged money-laundering activities concerning the corporation, Khalid said he would not comment on civil procedures. He however said that police were not consulted nor (officially) informed by the US Justice Department on the matter. "We are not involved in civil matters brought up by anyone. "This is not criminal probe (by the DOJ). We are only concerned with criminal matters." Asked on whether police's probe includes the prime minister's stepson Riza Aziz and businessman Low Taek Jho (better known as Jho Low), who are among the subjects of the DOJ's civil proceedings, Khalid said both of them "are within the purview of our investigations". To a question of whether police are working towards locating Riza and Jho Low, he said "We know what to do. It is our job." Khalid also lambasted those who

questioned the Public Accounts Committee's (PAC) report on 1MDB after it had been completed, likening it to the Malay proverb 'rumah sudah siap pahat masih berbunyi'. He said certain quarters must remember that the contents of Auditor-General's report on 1MDB published by the blog Sarawak Report had already been incorporated in the PAC report. "I want to say here that during the preparations of the PAC report, PAC had the opportunity to summon witnesses during the probe and during the presentation of the Auditor-General's report. "Why is it only now that questions are raised? Just because Sarawak Report published the AG's report, we should not forget that it had already been presented to PAC and PAC had discussed it thoroughly before issuing its findings and their five recommendations," he said. Khalid said the people should not listen to Sarawak Report, as the latter only intends to "create chaos."

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### **3. AG: No requests yet from US Justice Dept for 1MDB information or evidence**

PUTRAJAYA: The Attorney General's Chambers (AGC) has yet to receive any request from the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) to obtain any information or evidence pertaining to the investigation on 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB).

However, Attorney-General Tan Sri Mohamed Apandi Ali today said it welcomes any request, in line with its commitment to international cooperation and collaboration in the fight against money-laundering and corrupt practices.

"There is an ongoing investigation conducted by the police concerning matters related to 1MDB.

"We emphasise that it is crucial to preserve the integrity of the investigation as the public must not doubt the outcome of the investigation.

"As the public prosecutor, I will not hesitate to initiate proceedings against the perpetrators of criminal acts provided there is sufficient evidence to do so," he said in a statement.

He said Malaysia would always uphold the rule of law and punish any wrongdoings.

Apandi said the AGC has also taken note of the civil action filed by the DOJ for the forfeiture of relevant assets and that it is presently a matter within the civil court in the United States relating to the alleged laundering of money misappropriated from 1MDB.

However, Apandi emphasised there has been no evidence from any investigation conducted by any law enforcement agencies in various jurisdictions which shows money had been misappropriated from 1MDB.

There have not been criminal charges preferred against any individuals for the offence of misappropriation of funds from 1MDB, he added.

Apandi also expressed his concerns at the insinuations and allegations made against the Prime Minister of alleged criminal wrong doing in relation to the civil action filed by the DOJ.

#### **4. Singapore authorities seize S\$240 million in assets linked to 1MDB**

KUALA LUMPUR: Singapore authorities have seized assets totaling S\$240 million (RM717 million) as part of investigations into transactions linked to state investment firm 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB). In a joint statement today, Singapore's Attorney General's Chambers, Commercial Affairs Department and the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) said of the total assets seized, S\$120 million (RM358.7 million) belonged to Malaysian financier Low Taek Jho and his immediate family. The statement said Singapore authorities had been investigating various 1MDB-related fund flows through the country, for possible money laundering, securities fraud, cheating, and other offences committed in Singapore. It said, in the course of the investigations, bank accounts belonging to various individuals had been seized and dealings in properties belonging to some of these individuals had been curtailed. "The assets amount in total to S\$240 million. Of these bank accounts and properties, about S\$120 million belong to Mr Low Taek Jho and his immediate family," the statement said. It also said it noted the statement by the US Attorney General on Wednesday, seeking the forfeiture and recovery of more than US\$1 billion in assets associated with an international conspiracy to launder funds related to 1MDB. "The fund flows being investigated include those connected with Good Star Limited (Seychelles), Aabar Investments PJS Limited (BVI), Aabar Investments PJS Limited (Seychelles), and Tanore Finance Corp. (BVI)." In its own statement, MAS said its examinations of financial institutions with 1MDB-related fund flows revealed lapses in anti-money laundering controls and it would be taking action. In its inspection of DBS Bank Ltd (DBS), Standard Chartered Bank, Singapore Branch (SCB), and UBS AG, Singapore Branch (UBS), preliminary findings revealed instances of control failings in all three banks, and in some cases, weaknesses in the processes for accepting clients and monitoring transactions. It said supervisory examinations, which began in March last year, found lapses and weaknesses in antimoney laundering (AML) controls in these financial institutions. MAS said the lapses were serious and would be met by firm regulatory actions against the banks. It said breaches of AML regulations were also found in its ongoing inspection of the Singapore branch of Falcon Private Bank. MAS said its examination of licensed money changer - Raffles Money Exchange - found weak management oversight, inadequate risk management practices and internal controls, and that it was finalising regulatory action against the firm. Singapore's investigations into various 1MDB-related fund flows through the country started in March last year and are still in progress. Lawsuits filed by the US Justice of Department on Wednesday claimed Low had laundered hundreds of millions of illicit funds into the United States, which funded real estate purchases and a lavish lifestyle. The filings also claimed Low had taken cash siphoned from 1MDB to pay casino bills, including \$12 million (RM48.68 million) to Caesars Palace in Las Vegas and \$13.4 million (RM54.35 million) to the owner of the Venetian Las Vegas casino.

**5. 1MDB: Anifah meets American envoy in Putrajaya**

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia has yet to receive any request from the United States to obtain any information or evidence for the filing of a civil suit seeking to recover assets allegedly linked to 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB). Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Anifah Aman mentioned this in his meeting with US ambassador to Malaysia, Joseph Y. Yun at his ministry in Putrajaya yesterday. The meeting was held in relation to the news conference by the US attorney-general on July 20 on the filing of the civil suit, according to a statement from the ministry. "However, Malaysia is ready to fully cooperate with any lawful investigation of Malaysian companies in accordance with international protocols, provided that Malaysia and the United States work together on this matter," it said. The ministry said that Malaysia highly valued its bilateral relations with the US and called on the latter to recognise the various steps taken by the Malaysian government to address the 1MDB issue. - Bernama

**6. Terengganu MB tells civil servants: Be problem-solvers, not pencil-pushers**

KUALA TERENGGANU: Civil servants should be problem-solvers, instead of giving the public the runaround when approached for assistance. Terengganu Menteri Besar Ahmad Razif Abdul Rahman advised civil servants to pay attention to the public's woes by placing service before self. "Do not take your tasks and responsibilities for granted as your actions and behaviour are always scrutinised by the public. "The advent of the cyber world has given the opportunity for us to provide online services at our fingertips. "At the same time, it has also enabled the public to highlight their grievances and the inadequacies of officials via social media. "This can have an adverse impact on us, as a dissatisfied society can punish the government when their term is up in five years during the general election," said Razif after presenting excellent service awards to 50 civil servants at Wisma Darul Iman today. Each of the 50 recipients were awarded a plaque, certificate and RM5,000. "We always support and greatly value your services to develop the state and to care for the well-being of the people. "The government will be crippled if civil servants do not carry out the policies and tasks laid out, efficiently," Razif said. "In addition to free hajj pilgrimages and overseas trips for excellent staff, we are contemplating sending them to further their education and widen their knowledge overseas. "This will provide a win-win situation to benefit the officials and government, so that they can better serve the people. Razif cited the example of Huaxi in China which has successfully produced excellent talents. The village of Huaxi, about 120km

from Shanghai, was an impoverished place with 2,000 peasants dwelling in it in the 1960s. However, thanks to the foresight and industrious effort of a former soldier known as Wu, the village today has transformed into a thriving metropolis. Wu had challenged the locals to toil their lands with bare hands to produce farms that reaped good profits, which they used to invest in machinery and technology to open factories, ports, oil and gas facilities, mines and a world-class hotel.

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#### **7. Assistant accountant claims trial to making false claims amounting to RM12,000**

KOTA BARU: An assistant accountant at the Bachok district education office was today charged at the Session Court with 14 counts of making false claims amounting to more than RM12,000 since 2014. Nurazawati Shamsuddin, 34, pleaded not guilty to the offence before Judge Ahmad Bazli Bahrudin. The mother of three from Kampung Badak, Bachok, who was unrepresented, claimed trial to all the charges. The accused was accused of committing the offence between September 2014 until September last year by making false vouchers of her personal claims to the eSPKB system. The judge allowed bail of RM10,000 in one surety and set Sept 5 for the case to be re-mentioned.

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#### **8. DOJ should have listened to 1MDB's side of the story before making announcement**

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PUTRAJAYA: The United States Department of Justice (DOJ) should at least have the courtesy to contact 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) to listen to their side of the story rather than only based its reports on the online news website (Sarawak Report), said Barisan Nasional (BN) strategic communications director Datuk Abdul Rahman Dahlan today. Describing it as unbecoming for United States Attorney-General Loretta Lynch to use such a strong language in a situation when she was unsure whether there was a case or not, he said 'a charge had not been decided' giving a prejudice view against Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, the Malaysian government and 1MDB. "When we read the 136-page document, we find that it was based on the Sarawak Report which has a heavy political agenda against the government, BN and prime minister. So, our concern is why the DOJ of the US (United States) did not call 1MDB to verify. At least get the otherside of the story. "That is the only question. Why you go to the court and tell the whole world of your story when it is not completed," he said after attending the Economic Planning Unit's (EPU) Hari Raya open house here.

The DOJ had recently filed civil lawsuits to seize assets acquired with money allegedly misappropriated from 1MDB, the government investment fund. Meanwhile, Abdul Rahman, who is the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department responsible for the EPU, said the prime minister had repeatedly emphasised that he was not involved and that public funds were not involved. "What happens now is an allegation. Several individuals have been alleged to have taken or stolen 1MDB funds. It is an allegation by the DOJ," he said, adding that the DOJ was taking the opportunity to hit the country, government, prime minister by using very rude language. On the group linking Najib to the DOJ allegation, Abdul Rahman said if the DOJ had any proof to drag the prime minister, then his name would be stated in the DOJ document. "Try and show where (Datuk Seri) Najib's name had appeared...whereas several other names had been stated in the document," he said. -- BERNAMA

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#### **9. Programme to inform people about 1MDB to be held in Kelantan**

KOTA BARU: A programme to disseminate information on issues related to the 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) will be held in Kelantan to rectify the people's perception of the government. Kelantan UMNO Liaison Committee chairman Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed said the programme would be given to all, including civil servants, NGOs, private sector, political parties and people in the rural areas. "The information will made to be easily understood by the people in order to rectify the situation as a lot of incorrect things have been spread to the people, especially through the social media," he told reporters after attending the Kelantan Federal Development Department 'Semarak Aidilfitri' function here today. Mustapa was asked on the programme in connection with the move taken by the United States Department of Justice, which has filed a civil suit to recover assets acquired through the 1MDB that were allegedly misappropriated. --Bernama