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1. Govt to allocate more than RM1 bil to enhance Internet service this year



The government has allocated more than RM1 billion to enhance Internet facility and high quality broadband in more areas this year, said Deputy Communications and Multimedia Minister Eddin Syazlee Shith

KANGAR: The government has allocated more than RM1 billion to enhance Internet facility and high quality broadband in more areas this year, said Deputy Communications and Multimedia Minister Eddin Syazlee Shith.

He said this was necessary as efforts by the previous government in spending more than RM8 billion in providing the necessary infrastructure did not reach the level required to deliver the service.

"This happens because many of the previously appointed service providers did not carry out their responsibility well.

"Therefore, this year, we focus on improving basic facilities so that the people get to benefit the optimum," he told a media conference after a briefing by heads of departments and agencies under the ministry in Perlis here today.

Eddin Syazlee said since there were many more areas which still did not receive satisfactory Internet facility, hence priority would be given towards improving the service in the affected areas than to provide a more sophisticated 4G or 5G facility.

"The government has also not decided on increasing the Internet centres as there are still areas with no Internet facility and need to be given attention," he said and cited the area between Pos Betau and Sungai Koyan in the Cameron Highlands, Pahang, where there was no Internet facility at all.

Eddin Syazlee said the government's priority now was to provide cheap quality high-speed Internet for the people.

Installation of optic fibre is the best choice because it is cheaper and easy to be installed, compared using satellite, he added.

He urged agencies under the ministry to enhance coordination so that the government's mission and vision could be disseminated to the people more clearly and accurately.

2. Tender for construction of St Thomas school buildings this year: Teo



Deputy Education Minister Teo Nie Ching with Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Fuziah Salleh (3rd right) speak during the dialogue session at SMK Abu Bakar in Kuantan

KUANTAN: Teachers and students from the St Thomas primary and secondary schools here can heave a sigh of relief now that the Education Ministry has confirmed the construction of the new school buildings.

Deputy Education Minister Teo Nie Ching said the ministry will use the open tender system and other necessary procedures to make the project a reality.

She said the ministry will ensure that plans for the new buildings located at a 16ha site in Kemunting, near here could be finalised this year.

"The tender will be done this year...the process would take some time but it provides an effective way for contractors to submit their proposals as compared to direct negotiations. We can also minimise the cost.

"I cannot comment on the cost (if it will go up) as the ministry can only speak about it once we prepare the specifications and tender," Teo told reporters after a dialogue session with teachers from SMK St Thomas in SMK Sultan Abu Bakar here today.

She was asked by SMK St Thomas's Parent-Teacher Associations (PTA) chairman Norzaini Mohamad on the fate of the new school buildings after a plot of land was earmarked for the project four years ago.

The two schools which are now officially referred to as SMK St Thomas and SK St Thomas are currently sharing facilities with SK Teruntum and SMK Sultan Abu Bakar, respectively.

The two schools had vacated their previous premises in Jalan Gambut in 2014.

This occurred after the land where both schools were located, was returned to the St Thomas Church following a legal tussle between the government and the church in 2012.

It was previously announced that a RM40 million was allocated for the construction of the new schools in Kemunting, but the name would be changed to Sekolah Mahkota Abdullah once they are relocated.

Teo said it was important for the school to have their own buildings as it would ensure the students could focus and excel in their studies and perform well in co-curricular activities.

"It is difficult for a school and its students to study in an environment where the school has to share the same premises with another school. It will not be able to provide a conducive learning environment," she said.

Meanwhile, a group of St Thomas old boys led by its alumni representative, K.Suthakar handed a memorandum to Teo urging the Education Ministry to retain the school's name even when it is relocated to Kemunting.

He said the schools' name represented the pride and identity of former students, and that it would be meaningless for them if the school's name was changed.

The new Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah and his younger brother Tengku Muda of Pahang, Tengku Abdul Rahman are among the former St Thomas students.

3. Probe claim on RM90m payment: Patriot



Patriot president Datuk Mohamed Arshad Raji urged the police and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) to start investigations and called on anyone who had information on the matter to lodge a report with the authorities

KUALA LUMPUR: The National Patriot Association (Patriot) today called for an investigation into the claim in a Sarawak Report article that the RM90 million allegedly paid by UMNO to PAS leaders could be from 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) funds.

Patriot president Datuk Mohamed Arshad Raji urged the police and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) to start investigations and called on anyone who had information on the matter to lodge a report with the authorities.

"Even if no report is made, the police and the MACC should launch the investigations on their own," he said in a statement.

Mohamed Arshad said Malaysians wanted to know the truth behind the out-of-court settlement initiated by PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang after he had filed a defamation suit against Sarawak Report editor Clare Rewcastle-Brown for the RM90mil alleged payment.

He said dropping the suit did not mean the case was closed.

"Malaysians demand to know the truth in the case because, although it will not be adjudicated, (Rewcastle-) Brown's allegation that RM90 million was paid to PAS leaders remains," he said.

He added there was an audio recording of PAS Central Committee member Nik Mohamad Abduh Nik Abdul Aziz mentioning about receiving RM2 million from UMNO, which was furnished as evidence by Rewcastle-Brown and was not contested by Abdul Hadi.

He said Malaysians wanted to know the truth because the money paid to the PAS leaders allegedly came from 1MDB funds.

Abdul Hadi had filed a defamation suit in the London High Court of Justice after Sarawak Report published the article by Rewcastle-Brown on Aug 6, 2016.

Earlier this month, Abdul Hadi reportedly settled the case out of court and Rewcastle-Brown subsequently withdrew her counterclaims.

4. Pas leaders record statements at MACC over RM90mIn claim



(Stock image for illustration purposes) It was learned that he arrived at about 8.40am after he was summoned by the graft busters to have his statements recorded SAALI

PUTRAJAYA: Former Pas deputy president Datuk Seri Nasharuddin Mat Isa has arrived at the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission headquarters today.

It was learned that he arrived at about 8.40am after he was summoned by the graft busters to have his statements recorded.

It was reported in 2017 that Nasharuddin had been named to have received funds from SRC International Sdn Bhd, a former 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) subsidiary.

The former Pas deputy president, however, had denied the allegation, calling it "baseless" and "irrelevant".

He added that the statements against him were also "a gross defamation" to both him and PAS.

Aside from Nasharuddin, several Pas leaders, including Amanah vice-president Datuk Husam Musa and Pas central committee member Nik Mohamad Abduh Nik Abdul Aziz, were expected to give their statements to the MACC regarding allegations that the party had received RM90 million from 1MDB.

Nik Abduh was reported to have reached the MACC office in Kelantan to have his statement recorded.

Husam has yet to arrive at the MACC headquarters at press time.

5. Former MP to be charged tomorrow with corruption



(Stock image for illustration purposes) According to sources, the 56-year-old man, who was also a former member of the board of directors of Federal Land Development Authority (Felda), was arrested at the MACC headquarters in Putrajaya at 12.40pm

JOHOR BARU: The Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission (MACC) today arrested a former member of Parliament in Johor with the title Datuk in connection with two corruption cases involving cash and land worth RM230,000.

According to sources, the 56-year-old man, who was also a former member of the board of directors of Federal Land Development Authority (Felda), was arrested at the MACC headquarters in Putrajaya at 12.40pm.

"He is expected to be charged at the Johor Baru Sessions Court tomorrow," MACC said in a statement.

It is understood that the man had used his position in the board of Felda to propose and approve the appointment of a printing company, in which he is believed to have an interest, for the publication of '1Suara di Felda' newspaper from 2012 to 2015 for RM13 million.

In return, the man received a bribe of RM50,000 in cash in 2013, and in 2014 received a piece of land in Mukim Kota Tinggi, Johor worth about RM180,000.

MACC deputy commissioner (operations) Datuk Seri Azam Baki, when contacted, confirmed the arrest and said that the man was facing two charges under Section 165 of the Penal Code.

6. Report lodged over forest development permit



Kampar member of parliament Thomas Su Keong Siong today has lodged a report with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) today on alleged irregularities in the issuance of permit for a development project on two forest reserves in the state.

IPOH: Kampar member of parliament Thomas Su Keong Siong today has lodged a report with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) today on alleged irregularities in the issuance of permit for a development project on two forest reserves in the state.

Su had questioned on the approval since the company was only established five months ago but had received a greenlight to develop a project at Kledang Saiong Forest Reserve and Bukit Kinta Forest Forest in Kinta Manjung district.

"The report was lodged today since we found that there are several elements that need to be investigated thoroughly, since it involves a land permit and given to a company that was set up on July 26 last year.

"Why was the permit given to this company, and not others?" he questioned this during a press conference before lodging the report with the Protection of the Natural Heritage of Malaysia (Peka) at the Perak MACC office in Meru here today.

A letter which had gone viral claimed that the state government, through a Perak Forest Resources Committee meeting held in November last year, had approved the permit for the forest plantation development project, said to total 400ha.

It was reported on Friday that Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Ahmad Faizal Azumu said the state government would check on the permit issued.

Ahmad Faizal said he was not aware of the real situation regarding the status of the permit dated Dec 14, 2018 for the project located at the two forest reserves in Perak.

"I do not know the details, so I can't comment on the matter yet. I will have to check with the Land and Mines Office and the Forestry Office to get the facts right," Ahmad Faizal said.

7. French lawyer in Malaysia to aid submarine graft probe



A French lawyer probing a controversial submarine deal linked to Malaysia's ousted leader Najib Razak was Tuesday set to meet officials to aid investigations into the scandal.

KUALA LUMPUR: A French lawyer probing a controversial submarine deal linked to Malaysia's ousted leader Najib Razak was Tuesday set to meet officials to aid investigations into the scandal.

William Bourdon, who represents local human rights group Suaram over the French submarine deal, was deported from Malaysia on his last visit in 2011 when Najib's scandal-mired regime was still in power.

But after a historic change of government last year, he returned to the country to help a new investigation into the case.

Malaysia purchased two French-made Scorpene submarines for US\$1.2 billion in 2002 while Najib was defence minister.

The French submarine maker Naval Group - then called DCNS - is alleged to have paid more than 114 million euros (US\$128 million) in kickbacks to a shell company linked to Abdul Razak Baginda, a close Najib associate who brokered the deal.

Razak Baginda's Mongolian mistress Altantuya Shaariibuu, who was said to have demanded a cut for translating during negotiations, was shot dead and her body blown up with military-grade plastic explosives near Kuala Lumpur in 2006.

The case sank off the radar after a Malaysian court in 2008 cleared Razak Baginda of abetting the murder, sparking allegations of a huge cover-up to protect Najib.

Bourdon was set to meet with Malaysian Attorney-General Tommy Thomas on Tuesday to discuss the case, and anti-corruption officials.

"This is a complex case, you can imagine that they will like from us to update (them about) the proceedings in France," he told a press conference.

"Of course we will answer the questions as far as we can."

A French investigation was launched in 2010 after complaints from Suaram, and has already led to four French executives involved in the deal and Razak Baginda being charged. They all deny wrongdoing.

Najib was questioned by anti-graft officials over the case in November after Malaysia's new government took office and reopened investigations into the submarine deal.

The former premier, who is also embroiled in a separate scandal over the alleged looting of state fund 1MDB, denies any wrongdoing.

Najib's long-ruling coalition was voted out of power in May in large part due to the 1MDB scandal. The ex-leader has been arrested over the controversy and is due to stand trial.

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9. Govt allocates RM50m for tourism industry



Deputy Tourism, Arts and Culture Minister Muhammad Bakhtiar Wan Chik said the ministry was also asking the Finance Ministry for an additional allocation for tourism promotion programmes.

SEREMBAN: The Federal Government has allocated RM50 million to boost the tourism industry and to prepare for Visit Malaysia 2020

"So far the ministry has set aside RM50 million. We have applied for additional budget for special use to promote tourism activities.

"For Visit Malaysia 2020, we won't just focus on foreign tourists.

"Local tourists will be given equal attention as they, too, contribute to the country's income," he said after attending the Titik Sentuhan Pemimpin Bersama Rakyat programme at an Elderly Activity Centre in Kampung Baru Sikamat, here, today.

A total of 100 senior citizens, including 18 disabled individuals, received hampers and cash aid at the event.

Bakhtiar said 30 million people were expected to visit the country next year in conjunction with Visit Malaysia 2020.

He said more promotions would be carried out, including introducing Malaysia's rich and diverse cultures in Europe and countries such as China, India, Russia, Korea and Japan.

"We need to compete with Vietnam, Singapore, Indonesia and Thailand to ensure that tourists also come to Malaysia.

"We are going to market Asean and when tourists go to Thailand, we will also make sure they come to Malaysia to travel and see the culture and the uniqueness here.

"Tourists can visit more than 20 museums that are under the supervision of the ministry to learn about the unique cultural diversity here."

Asked whether the closure of Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman in Kuala Lumpur from March 15 onwards was part of the tourism plans, he said the question should be directed to Federal Territories Minister Khalid Abdul Samad or Kuala Lumpur mayor Datuk Nor Hisham Ahmad Dahlan.

"I do not want to answer on their behalf," he said.

10. Mindef suffered half a billion ringgit loss in land swap development project



Defence Minister, Mohamad Sabu

KUALA LUMPUR: The Defence Ministry (Mindef) today revealed that it had suffered a half a billion ringgit loss in a land swap deal involving development projects.

It is believed that the losses involving the deal had taken place since 1997.

The matter came to light following the tabling of an investigation undertaken by the Governance, Government Acquisitions and Finance Investigating Committee (JKTUPKK) chaired by Tan Sri Ambrin Buan on Jan 28 said Defence Minister, Mohamad Sabu.

"All losses and leakages comprised 16 land swap projects involving 2,963 acres (1,199 hectares) of land belonging to the Defence Ministry valued at RM4.7 billion and with a project cost of RM4.8 billion.

"The JKTUPKK also found that the loss or leakage estimate throughout the project implementation period involving the land swap deal stood at more than RM500 million.

"We were informed that the majority of the land swap project implementation was not carefully planned and the selection of the developer company was also not properly implemented in a comprehensive manner," said Mohamad in a statement here, today.

Mohamad said that there was also evidence of political interference in regards to the choice of the land swap location, which was believed to have been done for the political interest of certain quarters.

"This had caused part of the project' to exceed the previously agreed-upon contract periods as well as it was found that oart of the project which had been completed was done so with unsatisfactory construction quality.

Mohamad said the investigative report was tabled and accepted by the cabinet at its meeting on Feb 13.

"In this regard, I had instructed officers in the Defence Ministry to lodge reports with the police, MACC (Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission) and other relevant agencies to conduct further investigation and undertake any other action as provided by the law," he said.

"This would enable them to conduct further investigations and take other actions as provided by law," Mohamad added.

The land swap issue involving Mindef arose after former International Trade and Industry Minister Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz claimed that the ownership of more than 40,000 hectares of the ministry's land was transferred to a company owned by three individuals without an open tender.

She made the allegation in an open letter addressed to former Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak on April 8 last year.

The former Kuala Kangsar Member of Parliament claimed that the lands involved in the transactions was leased for 40 years to the company, to enable the land to be developed with various commercial projects.

Among the properties mentioned by Rafidah in her open letter were the Sungai Besi Royal Air Force Base (RMAF) and Majidee Camp in Johor Baru.

She alleged the proposal was made to the then government back in 2007 via a Cabinet paper, and that it had already been approved and executed.

Mindef in a statement on April 18, 2018 had said that there was no truth to the former Umno Wanita Chief's revelation.

The ministry insisted its management of federal land was open and transparent.

The ministry said that Rafidah's claim that all federal land used by the ministry was transferred to a company owned by these three individuals was also untrue.

The ministry added that it only selected firms for deals such as land swaps using stringent vetting under guidelines set by the Public-Private Partnership Unit (Ukas).

After vetting, such deals are presented to a Cabinet committee for further scrutiny and approval.

The military branch occupying the land affected would also be consulted, said the ministr.

11. Najib's ex-PR man charged with 2 counts of money laundering involving RM15 million



KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Najib Razak's former media advisor Paul Stadlen was charged in absentia with two money-laundering charges involving RM15 million, five years ago.

The prosecution was conducted by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) at the magistrate's court here today.

The MACC also sought for an arrest warrant to be issued against the British national since he had left the country when Barisan Nasional (BN) led by the former prime minister lost during the 14th General Election held in May last year.

According to the first charge, Stadlen was accused of ordering the transfer of a RM8,111,322.43 payment from illegal activities from a bank account of a client of law firm Messrs Hafarizam Wan & Aisha Mubarak, to several individuals and a company in 27 transactions between June and December, 2014.

The second charge stated that he ordered the transfer of a RM6 139,078.34 payment from illegal activities from the bank account of the same client of the law firm to several individuals and a company in 16 transactions between January and August, 2015.

Both charges framed under Section 4(1)(a) of the Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act 2001 (AMLATFPUAA) carries a maximum fine of up to RM5 million or a maximum jail term of five years.

Meanwhile, MACC arrested a lawyer with a 'Datuk' title today for his alleged involvement in money laundering activities worth RM15 million.

12. Mindef lodges report with MACC over land swap deals



The Special Duties Officer to the Defence Minister, Mohd Nasaie Ismail handed over the report on the Hutan Melintang army camp in Perak and Paloh army camp in Johor to the graft-busters at its headquarters here today.

PUTRAJAYA: The Defence Ministry (Mindef) has lodged a report with the Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission (MACC) involving two out of 16 land swap deals carried out by the previous administration which had incurred the government losses of over RM500 million.

The Special Duties Officer to the Defence Minister, Mohd Nasaie Ismail handed over the report on the Hutan Melintang army camp in Perak and Paloh army camp in Johor to the graft-busters at its headquarters here today.

The report was by the Governance, Procurement and Finance Investigating Committee headed by former Auditor-General Tan Sri Ambrin Buang on the land swap deals.

In the report, Mohd Nasaie said there were significant political involvement and negligence as well as mistakes in governance under the previous government on these two projects.

This incurred great amount of losses to the government and compromised and threatened the importance of the national defence strategy, he added.

He said the two projects were swapped with Kinrara Army Camp land in Selangor and Rasah Camp in Negeri Sembilan, which was also taken over by private company.

"The construction of Paloh and Hutan Melintang camps were not part of the Defence Ministry or the Eleventh Malaysian Plan.

"However, instructions were issued to build these two camps for political reasons. It was the ministry's plan to build a camp in Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan as a replacement for the Kinrara Camp, however, it was cancelled and replaced with the Paloh camp which is located in the Sembrong parliament in Johor.

"It is a similar case with the Hutan Melintang camp in the Bagan Datuk parliament, which was not slated under the Eleventh Malaysia Plan.

"There is also evidence of political interference and the direct involvement of the Election Commission (EC) to transfer and increase votes of army personnel and their families in both parliaments," he added.

In previous news reports, Defence Minister Mohamad Sabu said that the land swap deals had resulted in over RM500 million in losses and leakages.

He added that the projects involved 1,186 ha of land belonging to the Defence Ministry valued at RM4.75 billion, with project costs of RM4.88 billion.

Mohd Nasaie also said there are also doubts in the prices of both lands which were sold to private companies to build these camps.

"There are also inconsistencies in the price tag set by the previous government under the leadership of former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak and his deputy Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

"The Kinrara camp land, which was valued at RM758 million by the Valuation and Property Services Department (JPPH) was sold for RM500 million.

"While the 62-acre Paloh camp was sold for RM10.47 million, 43 per cent higher than the value set by JPPH which was RM7.28 million.

"It is strange that the government at that time which claimed that it was short of resources adopted the land swap methodology to carry out Mindef's projects and bought land higher than the market price," he added.

Mohd Nasaie also said the projects have been instructed to start construction even before the deals were finalised and signed by both parties.

He added that both these projects had put the safety and interest of the army personnel at stake and efforts to strengthen the military was also disregarded.

"The military needs the Port Dickson camp because the existing Rasah camp is in a dilapidated condition.

"Army personnel were also abruptly transferred to the Hutan Melintang camp even before the camp obtained the certificate of completion and compliance.

"The main goal of strengthening the army in the west coast of peninsular Malaysia by transferring personnel from Tambun and Kamunting Camps were also cancelled.

"The Hutan Melintang camp only housed a small number of the soldiers from the army regiment (askar wataniah)," he added.

13. MACC: No 1MDB funds found in Pas' account

KUALA TERENGGANU: Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has reiterated that investigations by the graftbusters so far have not found any evidence that the RM90 million allegedly from 1Malaysian Development Board (1MDB) was deposited into Pas account.

Its commissioner Datuk Seri Mohd Shukri Abdull who confirmed this, however, refused to elaborate further as investigations were still ongoing.

"Investigations by MACC to date, I am saying at this point ... have not found that the RM90 million purportedly from 1MDB went into Pas' account ... OK, that's enough," he said.

It was learnt that investigations into the case were still ongoing, although now focusing on personal accounts of certain individuals including those of Pas leaders.

Mohd Shukri said this when met after attending the signing of Ikrar Bebas Rasuah (anti-bribery pledge) by Terengganu assemblymen, here today.

Also present were Terengganu Menteri Besar Dr Ahmad Samsuri Mokhtar, state exco members and former menteri besar Datuk Seri Ahmad Razif Abd Rahman who also signed the pledge.

It was previously reported that Central Pas Committee member Nik Mohamad Abduh Nik Abdul Aziz was summoned to Kelantan MACC office in Kota Baru on Feb 8 to have his statements taken regarding the case.

Nik Abduh who is also Bachok MP is one of the four individuals who are key witnesses in the investigation.

Last Tuesday, Parti Amanah Negara (AMANAH) vice-president Datuk Husam Musa spent two hours at the Kelantan MACC office to have his statements taken by the graftbusters.



Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) commissioner Datuk Seri Mohd Shukri Abdull has reiterated that investigations by the graftbusters so far have not found any evidence that the RM90 million allegedly from 1Malaysian Development Board (1MDB) was deposited into Pas account

14. Anwar says he has information that Pas paid RM1mil to settle suit with Sarawak Report editor



Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has claimed that he has "credible information" that Pas paid RM1 million to Sarawak Report editor Clare Rewcastle Brown

KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has claimed that he has "credible information" that Pas paid RM1 million to Sarawak Report editor Clare Rewcastle Brown.

Anwar said PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang paid more than RM1 million to Sarawak Report to settle his civil suit against the website.

It was reported that Hadi had reached an out of court settlement with Rewcastle Brown to settle the suit, which the former had filed after the website accused Pas of receiving RM90 million from Umno in the run-up to the 14th General Election (GE14).

Anwar, who is PKR president, said he would reveal more about the settlement which Hadi had reached at a ceramah in Semenyih tonight.

"I don't think Pas will be able to deny it...I have enough information to prove that PAS paid (Sarawak Report editor) Clare Rewcastle-Brown.

"I will explain this in detail in Semenyih," he told reporters here earlier today.

Yesterday, PAS secretary general Datuk Takiyuddin Hassan denied that Hadi paid the sum as part of an out-of-court settlement with Rewcastle Brown earlier this month.

Hadi had sued Rewcastle Brown in London over a 2016 Sarawak Report article claiming that former Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak had channelled RM90 million to top PAS leaders in a bid for support ahead of GE14.

However, both parties agreed to settle the suit earlier this month and keep the conditions confidential.

On claims that there were attempts to oust Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Anwar said such controversy had been created by Hadi as an attempt to create a rift between him (Anwar) and the Prime Minister.

Anwar said he had always chosen to refrain from attacking Pas but could no longer hold back when the Islamist party started attacking him over the past two to three years and attempted to create a rift between him and Dr Mahathir.

He said Hadi had now started spreading the rumour of a plot to topple Dr Mahathir.

"I have discussed with all the leaders in Pakatan Harapan...no one has heard of such a plan. We are bound by an agreement to support Dr Mahathir as prime minister so it is not possible to call it off.

"So, there is no basis. And PKR will give our support to Dr Mahathir as we promised.

"Do not try to pit us against one another. This is the work of PAS, that is why I started to hit back at them," he said.

15. Pas sec-gen: I am here to assist MACC's RM90mil fund probe



PAS secretary-general Datuk Takiyuddin Hassan gestures after leaving the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission headquarters in Putrajaya.

PUTRAJAYA: Datuk Takiyuddin Hassan today said he has given his full cooperation in assisting the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission's (MACC) probe into the RM90 million fund, allegedly received by Pas leaders from Umno.

The Pas secretary-general said the process went on smoothly and he had signed the statement documents on the matter with the graftbusters.

"I have corporated with the MACC to assist them in completing the investigation.

"The purpose of me coming here is because my name has been mentioned in the Clare Rewcastle-Brown statement of defence.

"There was allegation that I owned a fleet of cars with personalised car registration numbers which was claimed to be part of the RM90 million allegedly taken from Umno," he said.

Takiyuddin said if needed, Pas leaders will continue to cooperate with the MACC to seek resolution on the matter.

He had earlier arrived at the MACC headquarters, here, at 9.20am and left at 2pm.

MACC chief commissioner, Datuk Seri Mohd Shukri Abdull, recently said that the commission had so far found no evidence that RM90 million - allegedly siphoned from 1MDB - was channelled into Pas' official bank accounts.

In response, Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the MACC needed more time to investigate the case.

The allegation was made in a Sarawak Report article published on Aug 6, 2016.

Pas responded by suing the news portal's editor, Clare Rewcastle-Brown, for libel but both parties later settled the matter out of court.

16. Sources: Some Pas leaders' bank accounts frozen by MACC



The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has frozen bank accounts and assets belonging to certain Pas leaders in connection with its investigation into allegations that the party received RM90 million purportedly stolen from 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB)

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has frozen bank accounts and assets belonging to certain Pas leaders in connection with its investigation into allegations that the party received RM90 million purportedly stolen from 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB).

Sources said the accounts which were frozen contained RM2.3 million, while assets seized were luxury vehicles, including a Toyota Vellfire, Porsche and Range Rover.

Also seized were cash of an undisclosed amount.

The action was taken as part of the commission's investigations conducted under the MACC Act and the Anti-Money Laundering, Anti-Terrorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlaw Activities Act 2001.

Several former and current Pas leaders have been called up for questioning over the allegations since early this month, among them former deputy president Datuk Dr Nasharudin Mat Isa and central committee member Nik Mohamad Abduh Nik Abdul Aziz.

Today, Pas secretary-general Datuk Takiyuddin Hassan spent more than four hours at MACC headquarters in Putrajaya over the matter.