Soeharto’s foundation told to pay damages

Febri Diansyah of Indonesia Corruption Watch (ICW) said that seizure of Supersemar’s asset would be a milestone in the campaign to end the impunity of the Soeharto family.

“Fifteen years after reform, a case against Soeharto has not been resolved. The AGO must take actions to return the funds to the state,” Febri said during a meeting with Deputy Attorney General Darmono in South Jakarta earlier this week.

The coalition believe the AGO has the right to force the foundation to pay the fines, in its capacity of the legal representative of the government in its battle against the Soehartos.

Erwin Natosmal of the Indonesian Legal Roundtable (ILR) said that the state would suffer more losses if the foundation delayed payment.

“The fine is worth Rp 3.07 trillion if we use today’s currency rate. If we were to deposit the fund in a bank with one-percent interest each year, the country loses Rp 83 million per day,” Erwin said.

Deputy Attorney General Darmono said that prosecutors would follow up on the coalition’s demands.

“This is our duty to collect the fines. Deputy Attorney General on Civil and State Administrative Law Burhanuddin has expressed willingness to follow up the Supreme Court ruling. This means that we will take legal action based on our authority,” Darmono said.

The coalition believe that the AGO’s ability to collect the fines could work as political pressure for the prosecution of the remaining six Soeharto’s foundations.

Other than Supersemar, none of Soeharto’s six foundation has been investigated for tax evasion.
The foundations are Dana Sejahtera Mandiri Foundation, Dharma Bhakti Sosial (Dharmais) Foundation, Dana Abadi Karya Bhakti (Dakab) Foundation, Amal Bhakti Muslim Pancasila Foundation, Dana Gotong Royong Kemanusiaan Foundation and Trikora Foundation.