

### New Straits Times July 2017

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**1. MACC deploys team to Johor over alleged missing military equipment**



The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission has sent an investigation team to the Port of Tanjung Pelepas (PTP) to probe the alleged disappearance of a container of high-tech military radar equipment.

JOHOR BARU: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission has sent an investigation team to the Port of Tanjung Pelepas (PTP) to probe the alleged disappearance of a container of high-tech military radar equipment.

The commission, in a statement today, said it acted after a report was lodged on the matter.

"Following the report, a MACC team was sent to the location to gather information on the matter before further action can be taken. The team will evaluate the information to ascertain whether there are elements of corruption or abuse of power in this incident," said MACC.

MACC said that it will also record statements from several Royal Customs Department officers to aid the investigation.

"We will also cooperate with the police who have also initiated an investigation into the case. However, our investigation would only focus on elements of corruption and abuse of power and would not interfere with the police investigation," said MACC.

A news report by an English daily last week said a multi-million ringgit shipping consignment containing the equipment was detained by Customs officials shortly after it arrived from Australia last month as it did not have the necessary permits.

During a recent audit check, the items apparently could not be located at the port.

However, the Customs Department said its checks showed that the consignment has reached its destination in Rotterdam Port, the Netherlands.

**2. MACC find RM32,000 cash hidden in biscuit tin of suspect's home**



A 42-year-old assistant mechanical engineer attached to the Royal Malaysian Police Technical Academy in Bakri was detained by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission for allegedly soliciting and accepting RM700,000 in bribes from one of the academy's suppliers since three years ago. (courtesy of SPRM)

JOHOR BARU: A 42-year-old assistant mechanical engineer attached to the Royal Malaysian Police Technical Academy in Bakri was detained by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) for allegedly soliciting and accepting RM700,000 in bribes from one of the academy's suppliers since three years ago.

The suspect who lives in Merlimau, Melaka, was detained by MACC enforcement officers who came knocking at his door at 6.30am today.

Johor MACC director Datuk Azmi Alias, who confirmed the arrest in a statement, said the suspect is being investigated for soliciting and accepting bribes for getting a supplies and services work contract for one of the academy's suppliers.

He was alleged to have solicited a sum of RM700,000 as a reward from the supplier between 2014 until 2016.

During the raid, the MACC team found RM32,000 in cash stored in a biscuit tin in the suspect's house.

The agency also seized jewellery and a Toyota Prado.

The case is investigated under Section 16(a)(b) of the MACC Act 2009. Under the act, a person can be fined up to five times the amount of the bribe money or RM10,000, whichever is higher, and can be jailed up to 20 years, upon conviction.

The suspect will be taken to the Segamat court house tomorrow for a remand extension request to facilitate investigations.

### 3. MACC calls up five port officials over missing military equipment



The Port of Tanjung Pelepas in Johor. The Customs Department is investigating if the release of military equipment from the port followed standard operating procedures.

THE Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission will call up five top management officials of the Port of Tanjung Pelepas (PTP) in Johor over the release of a container with high-tech military radar equipment without following proper procedures.

The *New Straits Times* has learnt that the graft-busters have obtained solid information that somebody authorised the consignment to be released to the Netherlands without getting clearance from the Customs Department.

"Based on initial investigations, we will call five witnesses (from PTP) to assist with investigations.

"We discovered that somebody had authorised the consignment to be released to the Netherlands without any order from the Customs Department.

"We have confirmation that Customs had told them to hold on to the items first, but they released the items without getting authorisation from the department," a source told the NST yesterday.

The source said MACC was looking into the case, focusing on who had been involved in releasing the consignment to its final destination.

He said these people would be called up, adding that MACC had gathered documents relating to the matter.

The source said MACC was working with Customs and the police on the case.

MACC deputy chief commissioner Datuk Azam Baki confirmed this, saying that the commission would call up at least four of the witnesses today.

He said MACC would also interview officers from the Customs Department, and individuals from the vendors and companies involved in the consignment.

"We have just started investigations, so there is no conclusion just yet," he told the NST.

The military equipment, worth millions of ringgit, was detained by the port authorities because it did not have permits.

All military equipment being shipped out of, or in transit at any Malaysian port, requires a special permit from the International Trade and Industry Ministry.

It is learnt that during a recent audit check, the classified military equipment could not be located at the port and a report was lodged.

On Thursday, Customs director-general Datuk T. Subromaniam said the shipment was not missing as reported and had reached its Rotterdam Port destination in the Netherlands.

He said they were carrying out an internal investigation to see if the standard operating procedures (SOPs) under the Strategic Trade Act were followed when releasing the goods.

Yesterday, Azam said the commission had also been alerted to other issues which needed to be investigated.

"Many had lodged reports on the port itself. We will also look into the port's SOPs involving confiscation of items and how the SOPs could lead to items in (the port's) possession to disappear," he told the NST.

#### **Port management welcomes MACC probe into case**

The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has sent an investigation team to the Port of Tanjung Pelepas (PTP) to probe into an alleged disappearance of a shipping cargo container with high-tech military equipment.

The commission said the action was taken after it received a report on the matter.

"Following the report, a MACC team has been sent to the location to gather information on the case before action can be taken. The team will evaluate the information to determine whether there are elements of corruption or abuse of power in this incident," it said in a statement yesterday.

The commission said it would cooperate with police, who have also initiated an investigation into the case, but its own probe would focus only on elements of corruption and abuse of power, and would not interfere with the police investigation.

Johor Port Authority (JPA), which manages PTP and the Johor Port in Pasir Gudang, said it welcomed the move by MACC to investigate whether there was any element of graft in the case.

JPA general manager Muhammad Razif Ahmad said MACC should be allowed to carry out its investigation.

"We have no problem with MACC's move since other agencies, like the police, are also conducting their own investigation.

"Hopefully, once the investigation is completed and if no offence is found to have been committed, PTP's name would be cleared."

Razif said JPA had conducted an internal inquiry following the case, and had found no element of corruption or abuse of power in the case.

"We have also identified areas in the port's standard operating procedures that can be improved.

"We welcome any suggestions from these agencies that could boost the port's operations."



**4. Sabah contractor charged with falsifying invoice amounting to RM19,800**



A contractor pleaded not guilty at a Sessions Court here for falsifying an invoice and local order documents amounting to RM19,800 four years ago

KOTA KINABALU: A contractor pleaded not guilty at a Sessions Court here for falsifying an invoice and local order documents amounting to RM19,800 four years ago.

Kaslan Jiman, 46, made the plea when the charge was read to him before judge Abu Bakar Manat.

According to the charge sheet, Kaslan provided documents which claimed that repair works on the administration centre, library, and student affairs buildings at National Youth Skill Training Institute in Kinarut had been done, despite no such work being completed.

He allegedly committed the offence at the Kota Kinabalu branch of the Accountant General's Department of Malaysia, on October 28, 2013.

Kaslan was charged under Section 18 of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) 2009 Act which is punishable under Section 24 of the same act and carries a jail term of up to 20 years and fine of five times the amount involved, or RM10,000 whichever is higher.

MACC prosecuting officer Awang Samsul Baharam Bongsu suggested that the bail be posted at RM20,000 with a deposit of RM10,000.

The judge set bail at RM20,000 with RM8,000 to be deposited, a local surety and surrender his passport.

The court fixed Aug 18 for case management and re-mention.

Kaslan was unrepresented.

#### **5. MACC to open new investigation paper on Felda**

The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) will open a new investigation paper on the Federal Land Development Authority (Felda), according to its chief commissioner Datuk Dzulkifli Ahmad.

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) will open a new investigation paper on the Federal Land Development Authority (Felda), according to its chief commissioner Datuk Dzulkifli Ahmad.

He said the move followed a new lead in an issue involving Felda received by the commission recently.

"I have instructed for a new investigation paper to be opened and we will issue a press statement on the matter very soon," he told a media conference after attending the Anti Corruption Revolution Movement (GERAH) programme at the Kuala Lumpur Hospital here today.

Dzulkifli, however, said that the investigations into the alleged corruption and abuse of power at Felda Global Ventures Holdings Bhd (FGV) were still ongoing.

The FGV management crisis reached its peak when its group president and chief executive officer (CEO) Datuk Zakaria Arshad and the group chief financial officer Ahmad Tifli Mohd Talha, together with two other senior members of the management team, were suspended and given leave of absence on June 6 pending a probe of certain deals under Delima Oil Products Sdn Bhd, which is a subsidiary of FGV.

On June 7, the government appointed former Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Idris Jala to oversee the decision and to recommend a way forward for FGV. On June 20, FGV announced the resignation of its chairman Tan Sri Mohd Isa Abdul Samad, while the government in a separate statement announced the appointment of Tan Sri Sulaiman Mahbob as acting FGV chairman with immediate effect.

In another development, Dzulkifli said only the governments of Penang, Selangor and Kelantan had yet to take the pledge and sign the Corruption-Free Pledge (IBR) introduced by the commission early this year.

He said the signing of the IBR would show a commitment and concern of the states to ensure that their administration was free from corruption and abuse of power.

"We don't want people to simply talk about how people should say no to bribery and ask the MACC to take action. The state governments should also play their roles and show their commitment to fight corruption and abuse of power," he said.

On the GERAH programme, Dzulkifli said the programme, which commenced three months ago, had brought about positive impact as there was an increase in the number of reports received by the commission from members of the public. - Bernam

**6. Investigations on loan sharks who accused two Kedah cops of soliciting bribe ongoing: MACC**

The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commisison (MACC) today clarified that the investigation involving the two moneylenders from Sungai Petani alleged to have offered bribe to two policemen, is ongoing. (File pix)

ALOR STAR: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commisison (MACC) today clarified that the investigation involving the two moneylenders from Sungai Petani alleged to have offered bribe to two policemen, is ongoing.

Its state director Datuk Mohd Fauzi Mohamad the case is being investigated separately from the ones against the two policemen involved.

According to the moneylenders, the policemen allegedly solicited RM10,000 bribe from them.

"Both investigations are still ongoing, separately and once completed, we will forward the investigation papers to the Attorney General's office for further action," he told reporters at the state MACC Hari Raya Open House here today.

On April 11, two police corporals was reported to be on their routine patrol spotted two men behaving suspiciously in a car near Aman Jaya shopping mall.

Upon reaching the car, the policemen spotted flyers and banners promoting illegal moneylending activities in their car.

Caught with incriminating evidence, two men then allegedly offered RM1,290 cash to the policemen, to not to take action against them.

The corporals aged 34 and 37, proceeded to detain the men and surrendered them together with the cash evidence.

The policemen honesty was even rewarded with an appreciation letter from Kedah police chief Datuk Asri Yusoff later in May.

However, one of moneylenders lodged a report at the Kuala Muda police headquarters upon release, claiming that the two policemen had solicited RM10,000 from them as a bribe.

MACC detained the two policemen for investigation into the report lodged by the moneylenders, last Tuesday.

They were released on MACC bail pending further probes.

**7. Prasarana CEO hails MRT's positive impact to country's GDP growth**



Mass Rapid Transit's impact to the national gross domestic product (GDP) growth will not stop even after its completion said Prasarana Malaysia Bhd chief executive officer Datuk Seri Azmi Abdul Aziz

KUALA LUMPUR: Mass Rapid Transit's impact to the national gross domestic product (GDP) growth will not stop even after its completion said Prasarana Malaysia Bhd chief executive officer Datuk Seri Azmi Abdul Aziz

"What we are looking at is the healthy return of investments put by the government on this infrastructure (MRT).

"For sure, it will have a direct impact to GDP growth even after completion. Once the GDP improves substantially, it will create wealth for the people," he said at a press conference yesterday.

"Of course, it will also boost our revenue streams but what is more important is the positive impact it has for the people. We are not a for-profit company," he added.

Azmi said other than influencing a healthier lifestyle among the people, the readily operational MRT will among others spur more transit oriented and property developments along the railway line.

Prasarana through its subsidiary, Rapid Rail Sdn Bhd is the operator of MRT for a term of 10 years, with an option of an extension of a further five years.

MRT Corp on the other hand is handling other operations such as advertising and retail.

The Phase Two of the Sg Buloh-Kajang MRT Line will begin its operation on Monday, July 17 and be launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

**8. MACC opens investigation paper on Felda Investment's London hotel purchase**



The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has opened an investigation paper on Felda Investment Corporation's (FIC) purchase of a four star hotel in Kensington, London.

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has opened an investigation paper on Felda Investment Corporation's (FIC) purchase of a four star hotel in Kensington, London.

In a statement, the MACC said its Chief Commissioner Datuk Dzulkifli Ahmad gave the instruction based on new information received on the purchase, made between 2013 and 2015.

The MACC said investigators have obtained all documents linked to the purchase and are processing all materials in their possession.

Based on initial investigations, the MACC said the FIC is believed to have purchased the hotel at a much higher price than its original rate, causing the FIC to suffer losses in the millions of ringgit.

"A detailed investigation will be carried out to determine if there was any element of corruption or power abuse during the hotel purchasing process.

"The MACC will also be calling a few important witnesses in the nearest future to record their statements for more information and solid evidence, before proceeding with the next step," it added.

**9. FIC London hotel probe: MACC to call up "important witnesses" soon**



He said the individuals comprise those who had their statements recorded as part of the separate Felda Global Ventures (FGV) investigation last month.

"We are in the midst of analysing (the) witnesses, and we have also seized documents. Several individuals who had their statements recorded as part of the FGV investigation will be called back to assist in the FIC investigation.

"However, there is no link between the FIC and FGV cases," he said today.

Dzul kifli declined to reveal the identities of the "important witnesses" and how many will be called up.

He was also tight-lipped when asked if the FIC's chief executive officer will be summoned as well.

"Let's wait and see what happens next week," said Dzul kifli when met at the MACC Hari Raya Aidilfitri open house with the Indian community in Kapar at SRJK Methodist today.

He had been asked to comment on the MACC's probe of the FIC, which is alleged to have vastly overpaid for the London hotel, resulting in millions of ringgit in losses.

In an earlier statement, Dzul kifli said he gave instructions for the investigation to be opened following fresh information received on the purchase, made between 2013 and 2015.

The MACC said investigators had obtained all documents linked to the purchase and are processing them.

It said that a detailed probe will be carried out to determine if there was corruption or abuse of power involved in the hotel's purchasing process.



**10. MACC officers arrive at Balai Felda to seize documents for FIC probe**

KUALA LUMPUR: A team of Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) investigating officers arrived at Balai Felda, Jalan Gurney this morning to seize documents pertaining to Felda Investment Corporation Sdn Bhd's (FIC) purchase of a RM330 million four-star hotel in Kensington, London.

Seven MACC uniformed officers arrived at 10.20am and were escorted to the FIC office on the fourth floor by a team of Felda auxiliary policemen.

Today's visit comes in the wake of the MACC's decision to open an investigation into the hotel purchase, made between 2013 and 2015, following the receipt of fresh information.

MACC chief commissioner Datuk Dzulfikri Ahmad had earlier said that a detailed probe will be carried out to determine if there was corruption or abuse of power involved in the hotel's purchasing process.

Based on initial investigations, the MACC believes that the FIC overpaid for the hotel, causing millions of ringgit in losses for the plantations giant.

It was reported that the FIC had acquired the hotel in the upmarket Kensington area in London for £60 million (RM330 million), making it the 12th investment in the group's hospitality portfolio.

The FIC was established in 2013 by the Federal Land Development Authority (Felda), with a focus on the real estate, hospitality and oil and gas sectors.

The MACC is also expected to call up several witnesses, including those who had their statements recorded as part of the separate Felda Global Ventures (FGV) investigation last month, to help in the FIC investigation.





A team of Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) investigating officers arrived at Balai Felda, Jalan Gurney this morning to seize documents pertaining to Felda Investment Corporation Sdn Bhd's (FIC) purchase of a RM330 million four-star hotel in Kensington, London.

# **11. PM launches SBK MRT line; pledges more transport projects under 'Projek Infra Rakyat'**



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak launching Malaysia's first mass rapid transit (MRT) system, the 51-kilometre Sungai Buloh-Kajang (SBK) line. Also present were his wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Chief Secretary to the Government, Tan Sri Ali Hamsa, second Finance Minister Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani, and MRT chief executive officer Datuk Seri Shahril Mokhtar.

KAJANG: Malaysia's first mass rapid transit (MRT) system, the 51-kilometre Sungai Buloh-Kajang (SBK) line, was launched and opened to the public today.

Two launch ceremonies were held simultaneously at the underground Tun Razak Exchange (TRX) station and the Kajang station this morning and was officiated by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

With the launch, 19 stations will commence operations under Phase 2 of the line, fully completing the entire 31 stations of the SBK route.

In his speech today, Najib said the completion of the SBK line was at the top of his priority list, as he knew that residents of the Klang Valley badly needed a modern, efficient, reliable and safe mode of transportation.

"I know that traffic congestion has become a regular occurrence on our roads due to the lack of focus on public transport previously. Commuting has become stressful with hours which could be better spent productively, or being with loved ones, wasted on the road.

"The government will continue to place emphasis on developing more public transport projects under 'Projek Infra Rakyat', so that the public will be able to enjoy the benefits of such projects," he said.

Najib added that other people-centric projects are being considered, including the MRT3 or the Circle Line.

"I am told that the feasibility study for (the MRT3) has been completed and the views of authorities and stakeholders are currently being sought. The study will be tabled at the National Economic Council early this September.

"As with the first two MRT lines, I am very keen to see the MRT3 built. The government will do all it can, including ensuring funding, in order to be able to develop this line as soon as possible," he said.

The Prime Minister said there was no reason why further MRT lines beyond MRT 3 should not be looked at.

"Kuala Lumpur and the Klang valley, as well as other urban areas will continue to grow and the need for modern, efficient and sustainable modes of transportation will follow.

"In view of this, studies and planning for new MRT lines should be done now so that we are not too late in meeting this need," he added.

On the SBK line being delivered on time and below target cost, Najib said this success was brought about due to the government getting the structures for the project right from the very beginning.

"This included having the MRT project Exco, appointment of a project delivery partner with DanaInfra Nasional Bhd, providing the funds for the project," he said.

The MRT will integrate with existing and future rail-based networks to form the backbone of the Klang Valley's public transportation system.

Normal revenue service between Sungai Buloh and Kajang will start operating on July 18, while the paid-to-paid linkways at the three interchange stations will also open then, allowing commuters to switch between the MRT and LRT services without exiting the gates and purchasing new tickets.

Najib also announced surprise goodies for passengers boarding trains between Kajang station and Muzium Negara stations, as they will be able to enjoy free rides from 4pm onwards today until midnight.

Fares will also be discounted at 50 per cent beginning tomorrow until Aug 31 for all MRT, LRT, monorail and commuter line passengers.

**12. MACC nabs Langkawi engineer for soliciting RM30,000 bribe**

The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) arrested an engineer with a consultant company in Langkawi yesterday for soliciting a RM30,000 bribe.

ALOR STAR: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) arrested an engineer with a consultant company in Langkawi yesterday for soliciting a RM30,000 bribe.

The 36-year-old man was picked up at 3.30pm on the island.

In a statement, Kedah MACC said the man allegedly solicited and pocketed the said amount as an inducement from a contractor to approve a monthly work progress report for submission to Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB).

The man will be brought to Langkawi's magistrate's court for a remand hearing this morning.

He is being investigated under Section 16(a)(A) of the MACC Act 2009.

**13. Two lawyers charged with CBT involving RM402,000**



Two lawyers were charged in the Sessions Court today with committing criminal breach of trust involving some RM402,000 which was meant for a property transaction. (Bernama photo)

KUALA LUMPUR: Two lawyers were charged in the Sessions Court today with committing criminal breach of trust involving some RM402,000 which was meant for a property transaction.

Mohd [Haidar@Hasmayuyudin](#) Mohd Hashim and Ahmad Ansor Muhd Rivai Batubara, both 45, were alleged to have committed the offence at their legal firm Mohd Haidar & Co, No 2-2, Tower 3, Bangsar Avenue 3, Jalan Kerinchi, near here on Sept 8, 2016.

The money, which was payment from property buyers V. Ananthi and her husband M.S. Loganathan, for the purchase of a double storey terrace house, from businessman Mohd Hazizi Saodi, was alleged to have been used by both the accused for their personal use.

While Mohd Haidar, who is wheel-chair bound after a stroke last year, claimed trial to committing the offence, Ahmad Ansor, did not turn up for the charging and the court issued a warrant of arrest, for him.

Deputy public prosecutor Malini Anne Satha Sivam did not offer bail and told the court that the accused was a flight risk and also might tamper with the prosecution witnesses because they are known to him.

Mohd Haidar, however told Judge Azman Ahmad the court should impose a reasonable bail amount on his, has cooperated with the police and court, he had been paralysed since June last year, and is undergoing physio therapy.

Azman set bail at RM10,000 in one surety and ordered Mohd Haidar to surrender his passport to the court, until disposal of the case.

He fixed Aug 22 for mention.

On June 1, Mohd Haidar claimed trial in the Sessions Courts for criminal breach of trust involving some RM2.25million, which was also meant for a property transaction.

#### **14. MACC lodges police report over false news on Sabah Water Dept scandal**

The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) lodged a police report today over an allegation that it had issued a statement claiming that no element of corruption was found in the Sabah State Water Department (Jans) scandal.

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) lodged a police report today over an allegation that it had issued a statement claiming that no element of corruption was found in the Sabah State Water Department (Jans) scandal.

MACC deputy chief commissioner (operations) Datuk Azam Baki, who confirmed the matter, said the police report was made at the Putrajaya police headquarters at around 10am.

Azam said the MACC is urging the police to investigate the case so that those involved in spreading the false information are subjected to legal action.

"The MACC is taking the matter seriously, as the spread of false information and news may not just confuse the public, but also affect court proceedings," he said.

An online portal's fake report, entitled "SPRM sahkan skandal Jabatan Air Negeri Sabah tiada unsur rasuah" (MACC confirms no element of corruption in the JANS case), made its rounds on social media recently.

The MACC issued a statement today denying the allegation and stressed that it charged three people - former Jans director Awang Mohd Tahir Mohd Talib and his wife Fauziah Piut, and former Jans deputy director for the department, Lim Lam Beng - with money laundering on Dec 29, last year.

Mohd Tahir was charged with 12 counts, totalling RM56.9 million, under Section 4 (1) (a) of the Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorism Financing Act (AMLATFA) 2001; and Section 4 (1) (b) of the Anti-Money Laundering, Anti-Terrorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act (AMLATFPUAA) 2001.

Meanwhile, Fauziah and Lam Beng were each charged with 19 counts, totalling RM2.2 million, and four counts amounting to RM2.38 million, under Section 4 (1) (b) of AMLATFPUAA 2001, respectively.

All three claimed trial to the charges at the Special Corruption Court after being produced before sessions court judge Ummu Kalthom Abdul Samad.

The two top senior officials were among 28 people arrested by the MACC in October last year on suspicion of siphoning money from RM1 billion-worth of allocations for federal-funded projects meant to boost Sabah's clean water supply.



**15. MACC denies clearing Sabah Water Dept of graft, mulls action against fake statement spreaders**



KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has denied issuing any statement confirming that there was no element of corruption surrounding the case of the Sabah State Water Department (JANS).

The graftbuster said today that the statement, which was being spread and shared in the social media since Saturday, was fake and the allegation made was misleading.

MACC stressed that it has charged three people related to the case; namely former JANS director Awang Mohd Tahir Mohd Talib, his wife Fauziah Piut and former JANS deputy director for the department Lim Lam Beng for money laundering on Dec 29 last year.

MACC said it was now considering lodging a police report against those who were spreading the matter online to ensure that legal action could be taken against the perpetrators.

"In this regard, MACC is urging the people not to take the opportunity to distort information pertaining to the case of the JANS corruption scandal.

"MACC will also continue to monitor and study unvalidated news which were uploaded in the social media to ensure that that effort to put MACC in a bad light can be prevented," read the statement.

On 29 Dec last year, Mohd Tahir was charged with 12 counts totalling RM56.9 million under Section 4 (1) (a) of the Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorism Financing Act (AMLATFA) 2001 and

Section 4 (1) (b) of the Anti-Money Laundering, Anti-Terrorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act (AMLATFPUAA) 2001.

Meanwhile, Fauziah and Lam Beng each were charged with 19 counts totalling RM2.2 million and four counts worth RM2.38 million under Section 4 (1) (b) AMLATFPUAA 2001 respectively.

All three claimed trial to the charges in the Special Corruption Court after being produced before Sessions Court judge Ummu Kalthom Abdul Samad.

The two top senior officials were among 28 people arrested by the MACC in October last year on suspicion of siphoning money from one billion ringgit-worth of allocations for federal-funded projects meant to boost Sabah's clean water supply.

**16. Ex-hotel staff charged with CBT amounting to RM191,474**



**Syazana Ahmad Puat (centre) escorted by police officers at the Georgetown Sessions court**

GEORGETOWN: A former four-star hotel account assistant pleaded not guilty in the Sessions Court here today to criminal breach of trust involving RM191,474.35 last June.

Syazana Ahmad Puat, 27, was alleged to have committed the offence by taking the hotel's collection of RM191,474.35 for personal use, at 9.10am at a four-star hotel in Bukit Jambul on June 9.

She was charged under Section 408 of the Penal Code which carries no less than one year and not more than 14 years jail term and also fined, if found guilty.

Deputy Public Prosecutor Farah Aimey Zainul Anwar prosecuted the case while Syazana was represented by lawyer Teh See Khoo.

During mitigation, Farah Aimey did not offer bail but said that if the court allowed for it, she requested that the bail be set at RM15,000 with additional conditions.

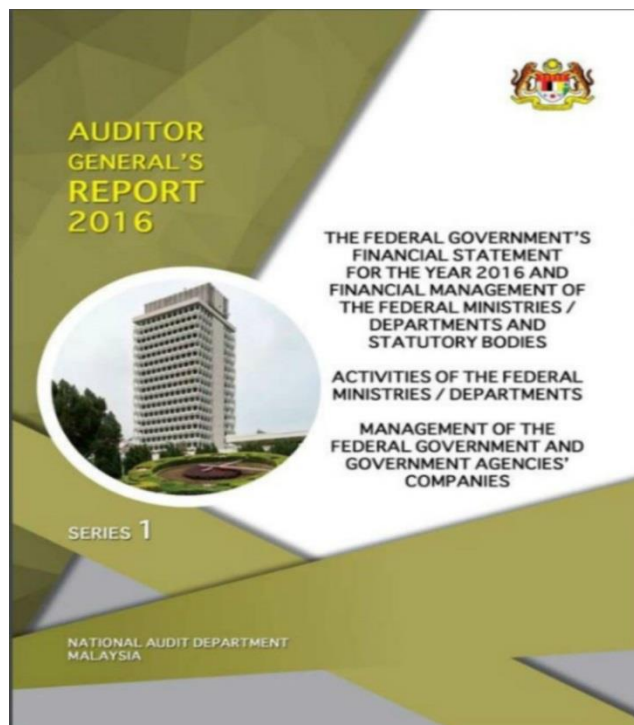
Teh requested for bail to be set lower as the accused's grandmother will be posting bail.

Irwan allowed bail to be set at RM10,000 with one surety, and ordered the accused to report to the nearest police station every month.

Syazana was also ordered to surrender her passport to the court.

The court also set 29 Aug for re-mention of case.

**17. 353 recommendations in Auditor-General's Report 2016 Series 1**



KUALA LUMPUR: The Auditor-General's Report 2016 Series 1 tabled today at the Dewan Rakyat contains 353 recommendations to assist the federal government, federal statutory bodies and state governments in rectifying identified weaknesses.

Auditor-General Tan Sri Dr Madinah Mohamad said two of the recommendations pertained to Federal government Financial Statement 2016; 90, federal government ministry and department activities; and 244, financial management of state government departments, agencies and companies.

"As usual, the department heads concerned have been informed beforehand, for the purpose of confirmation," she said in a statement to Bernama.

Meanwhile, she said federal government revenue for 2016 amounted to RM212.421 billion, compared to RM219.089 billion in 2015, showing a downward trend following the drop in world crude oil price.

On financial management performance rating, she said 25 ministries, 18 federal departments, 38 federal statutory bodies, 138 state ministries/departments, 41 state statutory bodies, 41 local authorities and six Islamic Religious Councils had been audited.

Madinah said 63 performance audits were conducted on government projects/activities/programmes and 21 management audits, on government companies at federal and state level.

She said the Finance Ministry had also given a feedback on the report with comments from the secretary-general and relevant department heads on the latest action undertaken.

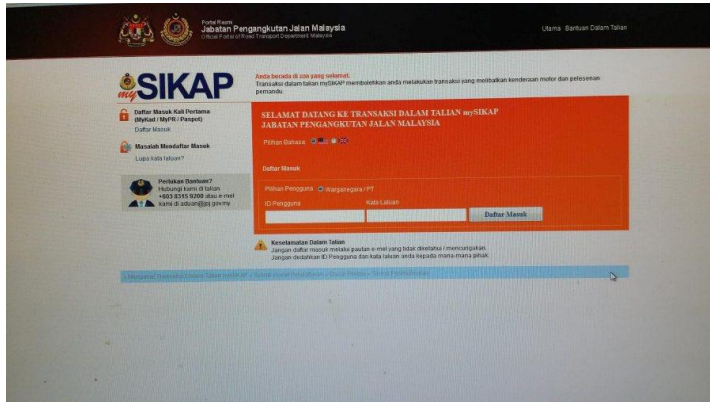
According to her, 187 of 307 ministries, federal departments and statutory bodies, state ministries/departments, state statutory bodies, local authorities and Islamic Religious Councils received 'excellence' (5-star) rating.

"Twenty-five ministries achieved excellence rating compared to 16 in 2015," she said.

Madinah said the report and synopsis could be accessed through the National Audit Department's website.

She said a session with the media on the Auditor-General's Report would be held on Thursday (Aug 3) at Auditorium Kompleks C, Putrajaya at 12 noon, during which Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Dr Ali Hamsa and ministry secretary-generals would be present. —

## 18. AG's Report 2016: Weaknesses detected in RTD's MySIKAP system



A screen grab from the MySIKAP portal. The 2016 Auditor General's Report noted that in terms of MySikap project implementation, there were flaws which needed to be addressed.

KUALA LUMPUR: Several weaknesses have been identified in the Transport Ministry's MySIKAP system, which has been in place at 16 Road Transport Department (RTD) branches since 2014.

The 2016 Auditor General's Report today noted that the overall management of the computerised system was satisfactory, and that it had successfully administered the registration and licensing of vehicles system effectively, thus improving RTD's service delivery.

However, in terms of project implementation, the report noted that there were flaws which needed to be addressed.

The report stated that the government's interests were not adequately safeguarded in the contract documents resulting in payment made not being value for money, and a capacity needs analysis was not carried out thoroughly to identify the requirements for mySIKAP's mainframe.

RTD, it said, also failed to provide a complete Service Level Agreement (SLA) and the element of penalties was not specified.

"A total of 821 out of 4,190 vehicles registered in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak renewed the Motor Vehicle License in regions with lower rates and not supported by the Customs Form 3. This resulted in leakage of government revenue amounting to RM773,340 for the period 2014 to 2016.

"The system also failed to block the issuance/renewal of the Competent Driving License for holders of Learner's License (L) or Probationary Driving License (P) which had been blacklisted. As a result, a total of 365 holders of L and P blacklisted were still able to obtain full licenses."

The report noted that to rectify these issues, RTD should carry out a thorough requirement study before procuring the mainframe and to take into account the impact of any change request on the mainframe so as not to compromise the performance of mySIKAP.

RTD, it said, should also ensure that SLA is prepared taking into account the clauses which safeguard government's interest and integrate mySIKAP with the Customs Department system in order to reduce leakage of government revenue as a result of motor vehicle licenses being renewed outside the declaration area.

Finally, it noted that RTD must ensure that the system is capable of deterring any transaction involving blacklisted driver's licenses.

**19. No plans to re-investigate 1MDB, says Auditor General**



Auditor General Tan Sri Dr Madinah Mohamad said re-investigation into 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) would only be conducted if there was an instruction by the government. REUTERS pic.

KUALA LUMPUR: The National Audit Department has no plans to re-open the investigation into 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) at the moment.

Auditor General Tan Sri Dr Madinah Mohamad said re-investigation would only be conducted if there was an instruction by the government.

"On 1MDB, we will wait for the instruction from the government. This is because, when there is an instruction, the National Audit Department will act based on instruction," she told a press conference at Dewan Rakyat today.

Madinah said this when asked if the department would probe 1MDB again after the United States' Department of Justice (DoJ) moved a civil suit against the state-owned firm over alleged misappropriation of funds.

1MDB in a statement previously said the civil lawsuit did not contain any appendices with documentary proof or witness statements to support the allegations made by the DoJ.

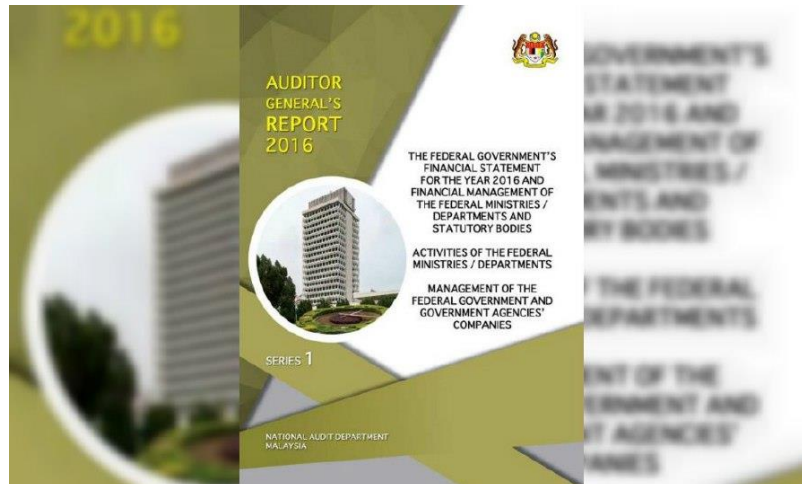
When asked if the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) was willing to probe on 1MDB again, PAC chairman Datuk Hasan Arifin reiterated that the committee had done its task and tabled the report to the Parliament.

"DoJ is DoJ and PAC is PAC. We have done all of the investigations (and) we tabled to the Parliament, so it is up to the government to take action.



"This (DoJ lawsuit) is on law protocol between two countries. All of these are being considered by the government and it is for the government to decide," he said.

**20. G's Report 2016: Flaws detected in Rawang Bypass infrastructure project**



The weaknesses identified in the first series of the Auditor-General's Report 2016 include the delay which caused the contractor to claim losses and expenses amounting to RM7.88 million.

KUALA LUMPUR: An audit conducted on the Works Ministry and Public Works Department (PWD) has unearthed weaknesses in the construction of the high-impact Rawang Bypass infrastructure project in Bandar Rawang.

The weaknesses identified in the first series of the Auditor-General's Report 2016 include the delay which caused the contractor to claim losses and expenses amounting to RM7.88 million.

"The project took a long time to complete with six extensions of 2,132 days given due to third parties 'work procedures and processes which were beyond PWD's control'.

"Design changes in the overlapping routes between elevated structures in the project, with the Assam Jawa Taman Rimba Highway (LATAR) also resulted in additional costs of RM34.2 million."

The report also stated the delay in settling the compensation for land acquisition with valid justification, resulting in penalty payment amounting to RM5.52 million.

"The 12.2 per cent progress claims by the contractor amounting to RM64.6 million were paid late between 15 and 118 days."

The construction of the bypass was approved under the 9th Malaysia Plan (RMK9) and aimed at solving the traffic congestion in Bandar Rawang as well as to improve the existing road network to Kuala Lumpur.

The project involved the upgrading of 10.72 km existing roads and the construction of a new four-lane dual carriageway spanning 12.58km.

The audit also found weaknesses in the construction of a flyover linking Jalan Nangka and Jalan Perda Timur through Jalan Padang Lalang/Landasan Keretapi/Jalan Permatang Rawa in Bukit Mertajam, Penang.

The flaws include change of scope in the quantity of ramps to be built, resulting in a delay in the commencement of the project and increase in project costs.

"The project was delayed for 641 days, causing claims for losses and expenses by the contractor which was estimated at RM5.31 million.

"The construction methods for road barrier also did not comply with the standards."

The project was approved under the 10th Malaysia Plan (RMK10) to solve the traffic congestion in Bandar Perda.

**21. Housing project for Pahang fishermen left abandoned for 15 years: Audit Dept**



The National Audit Department says the housing project for fishermen has been left abandoned for the past 15 years. NSTP file pic.

KUANTAN: A project to build 154 houses for fishermen on land owned by the State Government Secretariat Corporation (PSK) here has been left abandoned for the past 15 years.

This was a finding released by the National Audit Department today.

Checks by the department found that the project, involving 42.95 hectares of land, has accumulated outstanding property tax totalling RM82,364, inclusive of fines.

The department also found that the clear stated condition of the land is for the construction of one residential unit only, and that the process of changing the condition was not carried out by the local authority.

The department also noted that the project is still in the process of being secured by the contractor and that ownership remains with PSK, with property tax being exempted.

**22. AG's Report 2016: Downward trend in Fed govt revenue recorded**



(File pix) View of Kuala Lumpur city centre.

KUALA LUMPUR: The 2016 Auditor-General's Report which was released today revealed that there was a downward trend in the federal government revenue.

In 2016, the government earned a revenue of RM212.421 billion, a decrease of RM6.668 billion or three per cent.

This is in comparison with the 2015 revenue, which was recorded at RM219.089 billion.

The Treasury allocated management expenditure of RM212.3 billion, where 99 per cent or RM210.173 billion from the allocation was spent.

In terms of development expenditure, ministries and federal departments spent a total of RM41.995 billion or 97.9 per cent of the approved allocation amounting to RM43.003 billion.

"The government suffered a deficit of RM38.4 billion with a deficit ratio to the Gross Domestic Product at 3.12 per cent.

"The deficit was supported by local and international loans amounting to RM99.859 billion.

"Apart from development expenditure, these loans were also use to repay and support the Housing Loans Fund." the report read.

Overall, the Federal Government's financial statements for 2016 indicate a valid and fair depiction of its financial positions and its accounting records have also been maintained well and up-to-date.

**23. FIC's ex-CEO spotted at MACC headquarters**



Felda Investment Corporation (FIC) former chief executive officer was present at the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) headquarters today.

PUTRAJAYA: Felda Investment Corporation (FIC) former chief executive officer was present at the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) headquarters today believed to be over the purchase of a luxury hotel in Kuching, Sarawak.

He arrived at 9.30am and spent more than nine hours with the graftbusters.

As of 6.30pm, there was still no sign of him leaving the premises. MACC has yet to issue an official statement on the matter.

To date, three suspects have been remanded to facilitate MACC's investigation into FIC case.

Their remand will expire on Aug 4.

It was reported that investigators were probing into FIC's purchase of the four-star hotel and why did the firm paid RM160 million for the property with a market price of RM110 million.