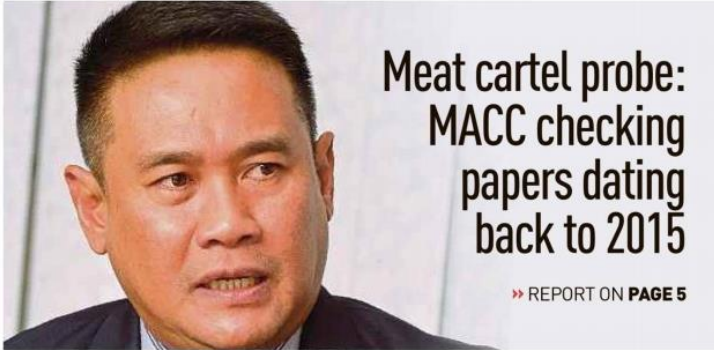


**NEWS PAPER CUTTING ON JANUARY 2021**  
**NEWS STRAIT TIMES**

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MEAT CARTEL INVESTIGATION

## MACC STUDYING FIRM'S DOCUMENTS

Graft busters seized papers from meat import company 2 weeks ago, says deputy chief commissioner

KUALA LUMPUR

ALL related documents belonging to a frozen meat import company, believed to be involved in the halal meat cartel issue, were seized two weeks ago, said Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) deputy chief commissioner (Operations) Datuk Seri Ahmad Khusairi Yahaya.

He said the MACC would go through the documents, which

date back to 2015, and the company's accounts to track down the mastermind, including enforcement personnel involved in protecting the activities.

"The case is being investigated under Section 18 and Section 17 (a) of the MACC Act," he said yesterday.

When asked to comment on the detention of two directors and two employees of frozen meat import companies, Khusairi said the food items were imported illegally.

"The focus of the MACC investigation is on two aspects. The first one is the offence of submitting false declarations in Customs Form 1 by the import company and agents handling the process.

"The second aspect is to examine if there was any form of corruption, such as money being paid through the accounts of the company involved," he said.

He said in every MACC inves-

tigation, elements of secrecy and surprise were crucial if a case received widespread media exposure.

"It (media exposure) gives them (bribe giver and receiver) a chance to dispose of all the evidence.

"Being quiet does not mean that the agencies involved in the investigation are not taking any action as collecting evidence requires time and analysis."

Khusairi said if the MACC "discussed" this issue too much with the media, it would complicate the investigation and give a negative perception to the community.

The *New Straits Times* recently front-paged a report on senior government officers working

with a cartel to smuggle in non-certified meat into Malaysia and passing it off as halal-certified products.

Believed to have been active for over 40 years, the cartel imported meat from non-halal certified slaughterhouses in several countries.

Once shipped into Malaysia, the meat would be taken to a warehouse where it would be mixed with halal-certified meat and repacked with fake halal logos before

entering the market.

Last month, Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin had ordered a special report on the scandal to be submitted to the government.

Muhyiddin's instruction was disclosed by Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services Department director-general Saiful Yazan Alwi during the *Kuang Bicara* programme on Bernama TV.

Muslim consumers and traders' groups have since urged people to refrain from buying imported beef until questions over the halal status are resolved.

Malaysia Muslim Consumers Association lead activist Datuk Nadzim Johan had last month claimed that based on insider information, those in the meat cartel had a hand in policy-making, with the latter pushing against breeding cows locally.

This move, he said, had led to Malaysia being heavily reliant on imported beef.

The association welcomed calls for the setting up of a Royal Commission of Inquiry on the issue. **Bernama**



Datuk Seri Ahmad Khusairi Yahaya

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## 4 held over alleged connection to meat cartel

**JOHOR BARU:** The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has arrested four people over their alleged links to a meat cartel.

The suspects, aged between 30 and 50, comprised two directors and an employee of an import company, as well as a director of another company.

"The suspects have been remanded for four days starting today (Monday)," said Johor MACC director Datuk Azmi Alias.

He said Lower Court registrar Nur Izzaty Muhammad Zahari is-

sued the remand orders for the suspects.

"The case is being investigated under Section 17b (offering/giving gratification) of the Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission Act 2009," said Azmi.

Three of the suspects — two men and a woman who are the director, managing director and a clerk of one of the companies — are represented by lawyer Wan Muhd Ariff Ameer Wan Norman-zlan.

Lawyer Yap Che Kai is representing the director of the other company.



The meat cartel suspects being led to the magistrate's court in Johor Baru yesterday. PIC BY ZAIN AHMED



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DEFENCE THEORY

# Goldman Sachs accused of being biggest culprit in 1MDB fiasco

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Datuk Seri Najib Razak's defence in the ongoing 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) trial yesterday blamed United States Investment bankers Goldman Sachs as the culprits which had embezzled from the strategic development company.

Najib's lead counsel, Tan Sri Muhammad Shafee Abdullah, said it was obvious there was a sophisticated criminal conspiracy by insiders to defraud 1MDB and Goldman Sachs was the biggest culprit in it.

His accusation was met with an affirmative reply from Mohd Hazem Abdul Rahman, the prosecution witness Shafee was cross-examining.

"I believe so, based on the reports," Hazem, who is the former chief executive officer of 1MDB, said from the witness stand.

Earlier, Shafee said it was obvious Goldman Sachs had crafted an elaborate scheme to embezzle from 1MDB by working with insiders in the wealth fund, including fugitive businessman Low

Taek Jho @ Jho Low, former 1MDB executive director Terence Geh, former 1MDB legal officer Jasmine Loo, former 1MDB chief executive officer Datuk Shahrol Azral Ibrahim and the former chief financial officer of the wealth fund Azmi Tahir.

However, Hazem said he could not comment on that.

Shafee continued with his conspiracy theory by pointing out that many dubious and misleading statements had been made by those in the wealth fund that were now proving to be untrue.

It was reported that Goldman Sachs had agreed to pay nearly US\$3 billion to end a probe of its role in the 1MDB scandal.

The bank's Malaysian subsidiary also admitted in a United States court that it had paid more than US\$1 billion in bribes to win work raising money for 1MDB.

US officials had then said the record settlement reflected Gold-

man Sachs central role in a massive corruption scheme.

One of Goldman Sachs's former partners, Tim Leissner, has also pleaded guilty in the US to conspiring to launder money and violating foreign bribery laws. Another executive is awaiting trial on foreign bribery charges.

Goldman Sachs has also reached a US\$3.9 billion settlement with the Malaysian government for its role in the corruption scandal.

Najib, 70, is facing four counts of abuse of power for using his position as the then prime minister, finance minister and 1MDB board of advisers chairman to receive gratification of RM2.28 billion.

He is also facing 21 counts of money laundering involving over RM4.3 billion. The trial before High Court judge Collin Lawrence Sequerah continues.

**By Sharanjit Singh**



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IPIC CASE TRIAL DATES RETAINED

# SHAFEE HINTS 1MDB TRIAL MAY DRAG ON

Defence only started cross-examination on 10th witness out of 60 prosecution is expected to call

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**D**ATUK Seri Najib Razak's lawyer has indicated that the former prime minister's 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB) trial might go on beyond the trial dates set for his other case with former treasury secretary-general Tan Sri Dr Mohd Irwan Serigar Abdullah.

Najib and Irwan's trial on six criminal breach of trust (CBT) charges involving RM6.6 billion of government funds for payments to the International Petroleum Investment Co (IPIC)



Former treasury secretary-general Tan Sri Dr Mohd Irwan Serigar Abdullah at the High Court in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. PIX BY MOHAMAD SHAHRIL BADRI SAALI

has been set to start in September before High Court judge Datuk Muhammad Jamil Hussin.

During the mention of the IPIC

case yesterday, Tan Sri Muhammad Shafee Abdullah, who represented Najib, told the court that the 1MDB trial still had a long way

to go.

This, he said, was because the defence in the 1MDB case had just started its cross-examination on the 10th witness out of 60 witnesses the prosecution was expected to call.

The matter arose when Shafee asked the court whether it could consider if the 1MDB trial, which had been fixed until July, would continue beyond the dates set in the IPIC case.

"I have just started cross-examining the witness for a day and a half and we need another three days," he said.

Shafee later asked for a further mention date to be fixed for the defence to update the court on the status of Najib's two other ongoing criminal trials (1MDB and tampering of audit report).

Jamil then fixed May 21 for mention and maintained the trial dates that he had fixed.

Meanwhile, Irwan's counsel, Datuk K. Kumaraendran, applied for his client's exemption from appearing in court on the men-

tion date as Irwan, who is taking law courses at a private college, will be sitting an exam on that day.

The judge allowed the application.

Deputy public prosecutor Nik Syahril Nik Ab Rahman appeared for the prosecution.

Previously, Jamil had fixed trial for 32 days in September and October to make way for the completion of Najib's two other criminal cases.

The prosecution is expected to call 50 witnesses in the case.

Najib, 68, and Irwan, 64, are facing six counts of CBT involving RM6.6 billion of government funds in their capacity as finance minister and treasury secretary-general respectively.

Three of the duo's charges were in relation to the payment due to IPIC.

Their charges, under Section 409 of the Penal Code for CBT by a public servant or agent, carries the maximum of 20 years' imprisonment, whipping and a fine upon conviction.



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## MAQIS OFFICERS REMAINED IN MEAT CARTEL SCANDAL

» PAGE 5

MEAT CARTEL CASE

# MACC DETAINS 2 MAQIS OFFICERS

Suspects aged 27 and 31 accused of accepting bribes for smuggling activities remanded for 5 days

JOHOR BARU

**T**WO officers from the state's Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services Department (Maqis), who were detained on Wednesday to assist in the investigation of the frozen meat cartel case, were remanded for five days, starting yesterday.

Bernama reported that the remand order until Jan 11 was issued by the Johor Baru Subordinate Courts' Assistant Registrar Nur Izzaty Muhammad Zahari after allowing the remand applications by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC).

The remand period would allow the two suspects, aged 27 and 31, to be further investigated under Section 17 (a) of the MACC Act 2009.

The two, who were stationed at the Port of Tanjung Pelepas, Gelang Patah in Iskandar Puteri, near here, were detained at the



A Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) officer escorting the Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services Department officers out of the magistrate's court in Johor Baru yesterday. PIC COURTESY OF JOHOR MACC

state MACC headquarters about 11pm on Wednesday after they were suspected of accepting bribes for the smuggling activities.

On Dec 2, Maqis unearthed the cartel's activities that brought in meat without a halal certificate,

before placing fake halal logos on the meat for local market sale.

In another development, four individuals comprising three company directors and a clerk, who were also remanded for four days in connection with the same scandal, were released on MACC

bail of RM10,000 each after their remand periods ended yesterday.

The suspects, aged between 39 and 50, were remanded for four days starting Monday by the magistrate's court here.

It was recently reported that a cartel had been importing non-

certified meat and selling it as halal meat in Malaysia.

The cartel had reportedly been operating for over 40 years and imported meat from non-halal-certified slaughterhouses in a few countries, such as Brazil, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Spain and Mexico.

The meat, smuggled out of the port, would be taken to warehouses, where it would be mixed with halal-certified meat and repacked with fake halal logos, then sold on the market.

Johor police had on Dec 27 received 15 reports regarding the "meat cartel" scandal, which has shocked Malaysians.

Its chief, Datuk Ayob Khan Mydin Pitchay, said 13 of the reports were from the Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry, while the rest were from the Customs Department and a political party.

On Dec 29, several non-governmental organisations lodged police reports urging the authorities to investigate the meat cartel scandal involving the importation of meat with dubious halal status.

Malaysia Muslim Halal Meat Importers Association president Datuk Dr Mohd Noor Ali Akbar said his association and several other NGOs are calling for fast action to be taken in response to public concern over the issue.

New Straits Times Paper | 9 Januari 2021 | Page: 5

'ISSUE HAS ALARMED THE PUBLIC'

## Cops recording statements from witnesses over meat cartel

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Police are recording statements from witnesses in connection with the meat cartel scandal, before referring the case to the Attorney-General's Chambers for further action.

Deputy Inspector-General of Police Datuk Seri Acryl Sani Abdullah Sani said investigators were looking into several issues before the investigation papers could be completed.

He said police had received several reports relating to the meat



Datuk Seri Acryl Sani Abdullah Sani

cartel issue and investigations under Section 505 (b) of the Penal Code had been initiated as the issue had alarmed the public and caused fear.

"The number of police reports over this issue has been accumulating over time," he said after unveiling a book on the history of the establishment of the Central Brigade and Battalion 4,5,6 and 19 of the General Operations Force at the APM Central Brigade Headquarters in Cheras here.



Four suspects of the meat cartel being brought to the Johor Baru magistrate's court to be remanded on Monday. PIC BY ZAIN AHMED

It was earlier reported that Johor Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) had opened investigation papers in connection with the smuggling of imported meat by the meat cartel under Section 16 and Section 18 of the MACC Act 2009.

In another development, Acryl

Sani said as the Covid-19 Compliance Operations Task Force leader, the police would ensure compliance with standard operating procedures in all sectors.

"Kelantan police chief (Datuk Shafien Mamat) recently stated that compounds would be issued and policemen would be mo-

bilised to prevent people from playing in the floodwaters.

"We will extend (instruction on compound issuance) to all state contingents to forbid such activities, gatherings or any kind of celebration involving crowds, where it is difficult to maintain physical distancing," he said. **Bernama**



New Straits Times Paper | 12 Januari 2021 | Page: 9

ACCEPTING MONEY

## Two cops jailed, fined for blindly following orders

**SHAH ALAM:** Two policemen, who claimed that they were forced to accept money from a Thai national after being ordered to do so by their superior officer, were yesterday sentenced to 10 days' jail and fined RM5,000 each.

Lance Corporal Shaiful Rizal Osman, 36, and Constable Muhammad Zuhair Mazlan, 28, from the Sungai Buloh police headquarters Narcotics Division were ordered to serve an additional two months' jail if they failed to pay the fine.

Sessions Court Judge Rozilah Salleh sentenced the duo after

they pleaded guilty to accepting RM3,000 from a Thai national in December 2019.

Before imposing the sentence Rozilah ticked off the accused for blindly following orders without thinking about the implications of their action.

She said the accused, being policemen, should have known better than to commit a wrongdoing.

"You cannot blindly follow orders...if it is a genuine directive then, of course, you have to do it but if it is something which is legally wrong, you should have reported it.

"You should not be in cahoots to commit a crime," Rozilah added.

Shaiful Rizal and Zuhair were accused of accepting RM3,000 from Nordin Chebueraheng.

They were accused of committing the offence at the Sungai Buloh police headquarters between 3.40am and 4am on Dec 24, 2019.

The offence, under Section 165 of the Penal Code carries a max-

**“You cannot blindly follow orders. ...if it is something which is legally wrong, you should have reported it.**

**ROZILAH SALLEH**  
Sessions Court Judge

imum of two years' jail and fine. Earlier, Muhammad Amirul Jamaluddin and Mohd Redzuan Mohamed Yusoff, who represented both the accused, pleaded for a lenient sentence after arguing that their clients were merely following orders given to them by their superior officer. Amirul said both accused were not involved in negotiating for the sum of money from the

Thai national.

Instead, he said they were just ordered to accept the money from Nordin by their superior.

"They were told to take the money and keep it.

"As lower rank policemen, they had no choice but to follow orders," he said.

However, Deputy Public Prosecutor Fadhli Ab Wahab urged the court to impose an appropriate sentence.

He said the case was of public interest and an appropriate sentence was needed to serve as a deterrent to other public servants.

New Straits Times Paper | 13 Januari 2021 | Page: 10

UPHOLDING HALAL STATUS

## Eurofresh taps local fresh beef distribution

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Eurofresh Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary of the Perak Agricultural Development Corporation (PPPNP), will soon venture into the distribution of fresh local beef as part of its long-term plan.

Perak Plantations, Agriculture and Food Industries Committee chairman Razman Zakaria said people were starting to question the halal status of imported frozen beef following last year's news report on a meat cartel.

This is despite the country being reliant on imported beef, which comprises 70 per cent of the domestic supply.

"When people are in doubt, it affects the economy, hence the plan to market fresh beef to the people," Razman said at a press conference after visiting the Eurofresh outlet here yesterday.

Present was PPPNP chief executive officer Yahanis Yahya.

Eurofresh has 41,448 cattle from more than 1,000 breeders and

22,887 goats from more than 700 breeders.

Previously, 30 entrepreneurs established cooperation with PPPNP in livestock projects involving cattle and goats in Perak.

PPPNP also collaborated with the Perak Veterinary Services Department in health screening, advisory services and the issuance of permits involving livestock such as cattle.

Eurofresh will establish cooperation with the entrepreneurs and breeders in purchasing fresh beef to improve their business.

Its general manager, Mohamad Hisam Mohamad Yusof, said the move opened the doors to expand the company in supplying fresh beef for its buyers.

This will also indirectly reduce the dependency on food imports, as well as currency flow abroad.

"We will try to get a processing hub to gather the beef supply.

The company will act as a dis-



Perak Plantations, Agriculture and Food Industries Committee chairman Razman Zakaria (third from left) during a visit to Eurofresh Sdn Bhd in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With him are Eurofresh chief executive officer Yahanis Yahya (second from left) and general manager Mohamad Hisam Mohamad Yusof (right). PIC BY EIZARI SHAMSUJIN

tribution arm to distribute beef to the local market. The market demand in Klang Valley is naturally bigger, so we will tap this market once we are established," Hisam said.

Last year, the *New Straits Times* reported that senior officers from no fewer than four government agencies were believed to be working hand-in-glove with a cartel specialising in bringing non-certified meat into Malaysia and passing it off as halal-certified products.

These officers, entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring that halal standards were upheld, were bribed in order to turn a blind eye to the cartel's operations and ensure that their activities

were not detected.

It is understood that the cartel had been in operation for more than 40 years.

Eurofresh has given a solid assurance that its imported frozen meat and seafood are guaranteed halal.

The company also stressed that it is obliged to ensure its imported stocks are certified halal by the Malaysian Islamic Development Department (Jakim) with import permit approval by the Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services Department (Maqis) before it is sold in the local market.

The frozen meat is imported from Australia, New Zealand, India, Brazil and Japan, while seafood is

from Chile, Alaska, Korea and China and does not involve any middleman or mediator to ship the products into the country, the company assured.

Eurofresh will neither compromise nor establish business relationship with any parties that do not comply with the guidelines set by the two agencies. This is due to the fact that halal is part of the Islamic law.

The company will uphold the good name of its parent company, PPPNP, which is a government-linked company to the Perak government besides being the largest shareholder of the company through Ladang Lekir Sdn Bhd (LLSB).



New Straits Times Paper | 15 Januari 2021 | Page: 8

'INTIMIDATING' WITNESS

# LOKMAN TO FACE COMMITTAL PROCEEDINGS

5-person Federal Court panel rejects Lokman's appeal to set aside leave granted to AG

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**F**ORMER Umno Supreme Council member Datuk Lokman Noor Adam, who was alleged to have intimidated a witness in the IMalaysia Development Bhd (IMDB) trial, is set to face committal proceedings.

A five-person Federal Court panel, in a unanimous decision yesterday, rejected Lokman's appeal to set aside the leave granted to the attorney-general (AG) to initiate the committal proceedings against him.

The hearing of the appeal was conducted virtually via Zoom between the panel and the parties.

The committal proceedings were instituted against Lokman by Tan Sri Tommy Thomas — who was the then AG, for threatening one of the key witnesses in the trial of former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak involving the misappropriation of RM2.28

billion of IMDB funds.

In dismissing the appeal, the panel chaired by Chief Justice Tun Tengku Maimun Tuan Mat held that there was no reason to disturb the findings of the lower courts.

On the cause papers for the contempt application which the appellant (Lokman) claimed to be inadequate and defective, the court said it was of the view that the papers were sufficient to inform him of the alleged contempt that he needed to answer and respond to.

The court also found that there was no prejudice occasioned to the appellant, who was represented by Tan Sri Muhammad Shafee Abdullah.

The other judges presiding were Federal Court judges Datuk Vernon Ong Lam Kiat, Datuk Zaleha Yusof, Datuk Abdul Rahman Sebli and Datuk Seri Hasnah Mohammed Hashim.

Deputy public prosecutor Ahmad Akram Gharib, who appeared for the AG, when contacted said with the ruling, the High Court would proceed with the

hearing of merits of the contempt application.

The case has been set for mention on Jan 27 before High Court judge Collin Lawrence Sequerah.

On Jan 14, last year, the High Court dismissed Lokman's application to set aside the leave to initiate committal proceedings against him, which was obtained by Thomas on Oct 22, 2019.

Lokman then appealed the decision to the Court of Appeal but did not succeed when it was dismissed on May

13, last year.

He then obtained leave to appeal to the Federal Court.

In the application to initiate the committal proceedings, Thomas alleged that Lokman had been in contempt of court which was perpetrated on two occasions on Sept 25, 2019.

The former AG had sought an order that Lokman be committed to prison or fined for contempt.

On Sept 25, 2019, Lokman had, in a video interview, uttered words implying a threat against Datuk Amhari Efendi Nazarud-

**In dismissing the appeal, the panel held that there was no reason to disturb the findings of the lower courts. ...The court has also found that there was no prejudice occasioned to the appellant...**



Datuk Lokman Noor Adam

din for having given evidence against Najib in the trial.

Amhari was the former special officer to Najib.

New Straits Times Paper | 20 Januari 2021 | Page: 12

## Taxi driver jailed, fined RM5,000 for RM50 bribe

**KUALA LUMPUR:** A taxi driver was sentenced to a day's jail and fined RM5,000 by the Sessions Court for offering RM50 as a bribe to a policeman last year. Beh Por Teik, who was also sought by police for a cheating case in Perak, was ordered to serve an additional six months' imprisonment if he failed to pay the fine. The 56-year-old was sentenced after he pleaded guilty to the offence yesterday. The father of three was accused of offering RM50 to Lance Corporal Adam Al-Hafiz during a traffic stop at 11am near Jalan Kuching on Sept 16. According to the facts of the case, the accused was stopped by Adam and his partner for questioning after driving in a suspicious manner. Checks by the police revealed that Por Teik had three previous criminal cases and was wanted for a cheating case. Adam told Por Teik that he would be arrested, but the latter showed Adam a RM50 note instead. The case was heard before judge Kamarudin Kamsun.

New Straits Times Paper | 27 Januari 2021 | Page: 8

MEAT CARTEL

# 'MOST MEAT IMPORTERS ARE BUMI FIRMS'

60 per cent of AP holders comprise Bumi firms, says minister in refuting claim

KUALA LANGAT

**A**BOUT 60 per cent of the Approved Permit (AP) holders involved in meat importing activities are Bumiputera companies, said Agriculture and Food Industries Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Klandee.

He said among the Bumiputera

AP holders were Ramly Food Processing Sdn Bhd and Darabif Meat Company, which were capable of importing large quantities of meat.

"In terms of the quantity (of imported meat), it depends on the ability of the company.

"These two companies are able to import meat in large quantities and are able to compete with



Agriculture and Food Industries Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Klandee (centre) being briefed about chilli fertigation during his visit to the Kuala Langat Area Farmers' Organisation yesterday. BERNAMA/PC

non-Bumiputera companies."

Klandee said this after a working visit to Kuala Langat Area Farmers' Organisation yesterday.

He was commenting on the claims made by former deputy Agriculture and Agro-based Industry minister Datuk Seri Tajuddin Abdul Rahman recently that only 10 per cent of AP holders that were importing meat were Bumiputera companies.

Commenting on the AP holders

blacklisted for violating the conditions, Klandee said the Agriculture and Food Industries Ministry was waiting for the results of the investigation.

"The case is being investigated by several agencies, including the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, Royal Malaysia Police, Customs Department and Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry.

"If there is a violation of the

conditions, the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs will take stern action against those involved."

Recently, the Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry said it was ready to revoke the APs of companies if they were found to be involved in the frozen meat distribution cartel without a halal certificate and would not tolerate any ministry staff being involved in such cases. **Bername**



**New Straits Times Paper | 28 Januari 2021 | Page: 12**

**APPROVED SISTER'S PROJECT**

# MPKJ senior officer claims trial to abuse of power charge

**SHAH ALAM:** Kajang Municipal Council (MPKJ) senior officer Datuk Nizam Sahari, 54, was yesterday charged with abuse of power allegedly committed five years ago.

The MPKJ Development Planning director pleaded not guilty when the charge was read before Sessions Court judge Rozilah Salleh.

He was accused of using his power as a government officer to approve development of a building project by Tetuan Permata Cerah Sdn Bhd, which belonged to his sister Zaiton Sahari.

He was accused of committing the offence in Hulu Langat on March 14, 2016.

The offence falls under Section 23(1) of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Act 2009, which carries a maximum jail term of 20 years and a fine of not less than five times the amount or value of the bribe or RM10,000, whichever is higher.

MACC deputy public prosecutor Fadhli Ab Wahab urged the court to impose RM20,000 bail with one surety.

He also urged the judge to direct the accused to surrender his passport to the court and report to the nearest MACC office every month.

Counsel Wan Muhd Ariff Ameer Wan Normazlan who represented the accused



*Datuk Nizam Sahari arriving at Shah Alam Sessions Court yesterday. PIC BY FAIZ ANUAR*

did not object to the prosecution's request.

The court later set RM20,000 bail and directed the accused to surrender his passport and report to the nearest MACC office every month until the disposal of the case.

The court also fixed Feb 25 for mention.

**New Straits Times Paper | 29 Januari 2021 | Page: 11**

## **Woman, 63, remanded over bribe offer to cop**

**GEORGE TOWN:** A senior citizen has been remanded for two days, until today, to assist investigations into a police bribery case. The remand order was granted by magistrate Jamaliah Abd Manap following an application by Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission assistant superintendent G. Jayarah. The woman, 63, represented by counsel Zainal Akram Zainal Azahar, had allegedly offered a bribe of RM28,150 to a policeman to release several people who were arrested when enforcers crushed a cigarette and beer smuggling syndicate on Tuesday. The case is being investigated under Section 17(b) of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Act 2009 for bribing civil servants. It was reported that the woman was detained along with six men for alleged involvement in a cigarette and beer smuggling syndicate in the state.