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Muhamad Tarmymy Che Ani arriving at the Sessions Court in Alor Star yesterday. PIC BY LUQMAN HAKIM ZUBIR

RM200,000 PROJECT

Kulim council engineering dept director claims trial to bribery

ALOR STAR: A Kulim Municipal Council (MPKK) Engineering Department director was charged in the Sessions Court here yesterday with abuse of power for recommending a relative's company for a roadwork project worth RM200,000 two years ago.

Muhamad Tarmymy Che Ani, 42, however, pleaded not guilty and claimed trial when the charge was read to him before judge Harmi Thamri.

The accused, as the MPKK Engineering Department director (Engineer Grade J48), had allegedly abused his position to secure a project for his relatives by proposing Sagur Ria Enterprise to the Kedah State Procurement Board to undertake a roadwork project worth RM200,000.

The project is for road construction and maintenance of Lorong Tiram 1/5 and 2/5 in Taman Tiram, Kulim, Kedah.

Sagur Ria Enterprise is jointly owned by the accused, his father and his sister.

Tarmymy allegedly committed the offence at the Kedah State Finance and Treasury Office in Wisma Darul Aman here on Dec 12, 2019.

The charge was filed under Section 23(1) of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2009, which is punishable under Section 24(1) of the same act.

It provides a jail term of up to 20 years and a fine five times the bribe amount upon conviction.

The accused, who was represented by lawyer M. Puvaneswaran, claimed trial to two other charges of dishonestly using forged documents at the

Kedah State Finance and Treasury Office.

Tarmymy was alleged to have used the Quotations Selection Committee's minutes of meeting dated Nov 27, 2019 despite having knowledge that it was a forged document.

He was alleged to have committed the offence at the Kedah State Finance and Treasury Office on Dec 5, 2019.

Tarmymy also claimed trial to a separate charge of dishonestly using Price Negotiation Committee's minutes of meeting dated Nov 27, 2019 for Phase 2 of Marris 2019 Project Allocation under MPKK despite having knowledge that it was a forged document.

He was alleged to have committed the offence at the Kedah State Finance and Treasury Office on Dec 26, 2019.

For these alleged offences, the charges were filed under Section 471 of the Penal Code and are punishable under Section 465 of the same act.

It provides for a jail term of up to two years or a fine, or both, upon conviction.

MACC deputy public prosecutor Zulfadzli Azharuddin urged the court to impose RM50,000 bail, but Tarmymy's lawyer pleaded for a lower amount citing that his client has a wife, five children and elderly parents to support. The court subsequently set bail at RM30,000 with one surety and fixed Feb 9 for mention.

Tarmymy, who appeared calm throughout the proceedings, posed for press photographers as he left the courtroom to post bail.

By Adie Zulkifli

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2 held over false claims in Segamat bridge project

JOHOR BARU: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has arrested two men here for allegedly making false claims in a temporary bridge project in Segamat. The suspects, the managing director of a company and a professional engineer, were arrested at the Johor MACC office at 7pm yesterday after having their statements recorded. According to the commission, the suspects allegedly submitted false claims totalling RM250,000 between 2016 and last year to a government department for a RM4 million temporary bridge project in Segamat, even though the project was not implemented. The suspects, aged 52 and 41, have been remanded to Jan 15.

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MARCH 7 FOR MENTION

2 RAUB WELFARE DEPT STAFF CLAIM TRIAL TO RM74,000 CBT

Account assistants allegedly misappropriated money from office's account

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TWO account assistants attached to the Raub district Welfare Department office yesterday claimed trial at the Sessions Court here for criminal breach of trust (CBT) involving RM74,000 in the past two years.

Tengku Asraf Shah Tengku Yahya and Zuraini Abdul Rahim @ Abdul Rahman, both 39, claimed trial when the charge was jointly read before Judge Datuk Ahmad Zamzani Mohd Zain.

They were jointly charged with misappropriating RM74,000 belonging to the Raub Welfare Department office's account.

The offences were committed at the Raub Welfare Department's office between June 22, 2020, and Feb 18 last year.

They were charged under Section 409 of the Penal Code, which



Tengku Asraf Shah Tengku Yahya (second from right) and Zuraini Abdul Rahim @ Abdul Rahman (second from left) being taken to the Sessions Court in Kuantan yesterday. PIC BY FARIDUL HAFIZ AWANG

provides imprisonment up to 20 years, whipping, and fine.

Both were offered an alternative charge under Section 403 of the Penal Code where they could be jailed for not fewer than six months and not more than five years, with whipping and fine, upon conviction.

Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) prosecuting officer Kamariah Seman proposed RM10,000 bail with one surety for each accused.

Counsel Shahidah Muslimah Roslan, who represented Tengku Asraf Shah, requested a lower bail, saying her client, who supported his wife and two children, was also looking after his elderly parents.

She said her client was prepared to adhere to other additional conditions, including reporting to an MACC office.

Zuraini, who was not represented, told the court that her husband worked as a lorry atten-

dant and she had to support her school-going children.

"I seek treatment at the hospital. I appeal to the court to lower the bail."

Zamzani set RM5,000 bail for each accused with one surety and imposed two additional conditions on them to report to the nearest MACC office every month starting this month and to surrender their passport until the case was over.

He fixed March 7 for mention.



Firdaus Azad Ab Hamid

TEMPORARY PERMIT

Selayang council worker claims trial to 6 graft charges

SHAH ALAM: A Selayang Municipal Council (MPS) enforcement assistant pleaded not guilty at the Sessions Court here yesterday to six charges of soliciting and accepting RM5,500 in bribes from company three years ago.

Firdaus Azad Ab Hamid, 37, was charged with three counts of accepting bribes amounting to RM5,500 from Yip Chee Seng Sons Sdn Bhd director Yip Ke Kuin as an inducement to help the company obtain an annual temporary permit.

The charges were framed under Section 17(a) of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Act 2009, and punishable under Section 24(1) of the same act.

He was also charged with three counts of soliciting RM5,500 from the same individual as an inducement to help the company obtain an annual temporary permit under Section 16(a)(B) of the MACC Act 2009 and punishable under Section 24(1) of the same act.

For each charge, he faces imprisonment of up to 20 years or a fine of not less than five times the bribe amount, or RM10,000 whichever is higher, upon conviction.

Firdaus Azad also pleaded not guilty to three optional charges receiving RM5,500 from the same individual whom he knew had connection with his official duties.

The charges were framed under Section 165 of the Penal Code which provides imprisonment up to two years, or a fine, or both, upon conviction.

All the offences were allegedly committed at a bank in Shah Alam between Feb 20, 2019, and Nov 12, 2019.

Judge Rozilah Salleh allowed bail at RM8,000 with one surety and ordered the accused to surrender his passport to the court and report to the nearest MACC office every month.

The court fixed Feb 15 for mention to enable the accused to appoint a lawyer.

CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Manager pleads not guilty to bribing civil servant

IPOH: A construction company manager was charged at the Sessions Court here yesterday with three counts of bribing a civil servant with RM14,000 three years ago.

Asdi Ali, 42, pleaded not guilty when the charges were read to him before Judge M. Bakri Abd Majid.

According to the charge, Asdi was accused of bribing engineering assistant Hairulnizam Sarudin, 44, as an inducement to get permission and additional work approval for repair work in Hulu Selangor.

The repairs were at the Darul Quran's women dormitory, Maktab Police Kuala Kubu Baru and



Asdi Ali

Sekolah Menengah Sains Hulu Selangor.

The offences were allegedly committed at the Ipoh Garden Maybank branch in Jalan Can-

ning here on Dec 6 and 20, 2019.

He was charged under Section 17(b) of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Act 2009. The case was prosecuted by MACC prosecution officer Fadhlil Ab Wahab, while the accused was represented by lawyer Nazrin Sulaiman.

Fadhlil had asked bail to be set at RM10,000 and the case transferred to the Shah Alam Sessions Court to be tried jointly with another corruption case faced by the accused.

Nazrin, in mitigation, requested the court apply the RM15,000 bail that had been paid by the accused when he was charged at the Shah Alam Sessions Court

last month.

Bakri set RM8,000 bail for all charges and the case be moved to the Shah Alam Sessions Court.

The court set Jan 26 for mention.

On Dec 21, Asdi and his brother, Amir, 46, pleaded not guilty at the Shah Alam Sessions Court to giving a bribe of RM63,000 in connection with upgrading, maintenance and repair work at the Hulu Selangor Public Works Department in 2020.

On Jan 9, Asdi pleaded not guilty at the Johor Baru Sessions Court to offering a bribe of RM10,000 to obtain a project to repair and improve road safety in Hulu Selangor in 2021.

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MONTHLY BRIBES

Ex-enforcement director arrested in RM3.1m waste contract probe

ALOR STAR: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) made a high profile arrest in Kedah following investigations into a multi-million ringgit solid waste management contract in the northern state.

A source familiar with the investigations said MACC had arrested a former enforcement director with a government agency yesterday for allegedly receiving monthly bribes from a contractor for a RM3.1 million contract.

"The former director, in his 40s, was detained upon turning up at the MACC office in Sabah about 2pm yesterday to have his statement recorded," said the source.

The source said the suspect was being investigated for soliciting and receiving monthly bribes between July 2019 and March last

year from a contractor.

"The bribe was an inducement to help the contractor secure a solid waste management and general cleaning works tender in the northern state," added the source.

It was learnt that he was then flown to Kuala Lumpur and presented at the magistrate's court yesterday for a remand application.

"Magistrate Nadia Othman granted MACC a week-long remand order beginning today (yesterday) for further investigation," added the source.

Meanwhile, Kedah MACC director Datuk Shaharom Nizam

Abd Manap confirmed the arrest.

He said the case was being investigated under Section 16 of the MACC Act 2009, but declined to elaborate.



Datuk Shaharom
Nizam Abd Manap

The arrest came after MACC detained a former enforcement assistant with a government agency last Thursday for allegedly receiving RM20,000 in monthly bribes for 20 months, beginning July 2019 in connection with a RM3.1 million contract.

It was reported that MACC had detained the former enforcement assistant when he turned up at the Kuala Lumpur MACC office to assist in investigations.

On Jan 11, MACC hauled up 21 individuals followed by another arrest five days later.

It was reported that the suspects were managers, owners and

workers of several companies suspected of using falsified bank documents to apply for a tender with a solid waste management company in 2019.

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ORIGINATING SUMMONS

28 RETIRED JUDGES FILE SUIT OVER PENSION PAYMENT

Plaintiffs
'aggrieved by
unconstitutionality
of their non-adjusted
pensions'

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TWENTY-EIGHT retired judges and seven dependants of former judges have filed a lawsuit against the government seeking an adjustment in their pension scheme.

They named the government, prime minister, cabinet ministers and public service director-general as the first, second, third and fourth defendants, respectively.

The plaintiffs filed the lawsuit via Messrs Chooi & Company + Cheang & Ariff at the High Court here last week.

According to the originating summons, the plaintiffs were aggrieved by the unconstitutionality of their non-adjusted pensions, which were protected under the Federal Constitution.

"The plaintiffs, through their solicitors, sent a notice of demand to the government on Sept 17 last year.

"However, there has been no response to the notice," it said.

The plaintiffs are seeking for the Yang di-Pertuan Agong to re-



The plaintiffs in the lawsuit include judges who served in the Federal Court, the Court of Appeal, the High Court of Malaysia and the High Court of Sabah and Sarawak.

peal the Judges' Remuneration (Amendment of First and Fifth Schedules) Regulations 2016 as it breached Article 125(7) of the Federal Constitution.

Under the Regulations, the pension and other benefits of judges and judicial commissioners are adjusted annually by two per cent.

"This is in breach of Article 125(7) of the Federal Constitution, which states that the remuneration and other terms of office, including the pension rights of judges, shall not be altered to their disadvantage after appointment," it said.

"The pension and benefits should be adjusted according to the current salaries and benefits of serving judges."

The plaintiffs, including judges who served in the Federal Court, the Court of Appeal, the High Court of Malaysia and the High Court of Sabah and Sarawak are:

1. Tan Sri Haidar Mohamed Nor
2. Tan Sri Vadaketh Chacko George
3. Datuk T. Selventhiranathan
4. Tan Sri Mohamad Ariff Md Yusof
5. Datuk Seri Mohd Hishamudin Md Yunus
6. Datuk Seri Shaik Daud Md Ismail
7. Tan Sri Siti Norma Yaakob
8. Datuk Alauddin Mohd Sheriff
9. Tan Sri Sulong Matjeraie
10. Datuk Azhar @ Izhar Ma'ah
11. Datuk Tee Ah Sing @ Tee

Boon Hooi

12. Tan Sri Wan Adnan @ Wan Addinain Muhammad
13. Datuk Abdul Malik Ishak
14. Datuk Sulaiman Daud
15. Chew Soo Ho
16. Daruk V. S. K. Anantham
17. Datuk Mah Weng Kwai
18. Datuk Noraini Abdul Rahman
19. Datuk Abdul Alim Abdullah
20. Datuk John Louis O'Hara
21. Datuk Pajan Singh Gill
22. Datuk Azmel Maamor
23. Datuk Noor Azlan Shaari
24. Datuk Abdul Aziz Abdul Rahim
25. Datuk Mahadev Shankar
26. Datuk Zainal Aqzam Abd. Ghanj
27. Datuk Clement Allan Skinner
28. Datuk Syed Ahmad Helmy Syed Ahmad
29. Tay Lee Har (widow and dependant of Datuk Ong See Seng)
30. Van Berlo Antoinette Gezina Jacoba Maria (widow and dependant of Datuk Hashim Che Yusoff)
31. Rofiah Sheikh Mohamed (widow and dependant of Tan Sri Abdul Malek Ahmad)
32. Azizah Ismail (widow and dependant of Datuk Mohd Noor Ahmad)
33. Beatrice Vohrah Nee Chew Ghim Neo (widow and dependant of Datuk Karam Chandaran Vohrah)
34. Ewe Swee Cheng (widow and dependant of Datuk Vincent Ng Kim Khoay)
35. Lim Cheng Eng (widow and dependant of Peh Swee Chin)

REWARD FOR INFO

CEO charged with giving RM85,000 in bribes

KUALA LUMPUR: A chief executive officer of a communication content service company was charged in the Sessions Court here yesterday with 26 counts of giving bribes amounting to RM85,000 to a male employee of a telecommunications company eight years ago.

Lim Eng Hoong, 46, however, pleaded not guilty to all the charges read out to him before judge Rozina Ayob.

On all the charges, Lim was charged with giving bribes totalling RM85,000, through a bank account belonging to a woman, to the employee of the telecommunications company as a reward for providing him information on complaints by customers of the telecommunications company to his company.

The offence was allegedly committed at HSEB Amanah Wangsa Maju Branch here, between Dec 3, 2014 and Sept 1, 2016.

The charges were framed under Section 16(b)(A) of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Act 2009, which provides an imprisonment of up to 20 years and a fine of not less than five times the value of the bribe or RM10,000, whichever is higher, if found guilty.

Rozina allowed Lim bail of RM30,000 with one surety for all charges and also ordered him to report to the nearest MACC office and to not intimidate witnesses in the case. The court set Feb 23 for mention. **Bernama**

THIRD SUSPECT

'Broker' arrested in probe into procurement of naval ships

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) on Tuesday night arrested a third person to facilitate its probe into the procurement of six littoral combat ships (LCS).

The 62-year-old suspect was arrested when he went in for questioning at the MACC headquarters in Putrajaya near here at 9.30pm on Tuesday.

It is understood that the suspect was believed to have acted as a broker who had submitted documents containing fake details estimated to be worth RM24 mil-

lion in relation to the procurement contract of the LCS.

"The case is being investigated under Section 18 of the MACC Act 2009," sources with the graft buster said.

The sources also said MACC had obtained a five-day remand order against the suspect to assist investigations into the case when he was produced before magistrate Shah Wira Abdul Halim at the magistrate's court in Putrajaya near here yesterday morning.

It was reported that MACC

found fresh leads in its investigations into the procurement of the six LCS, which are supposed to be built by Boustead Naval Shipyard Sdn Bhd (BNS).

The new leads made way for MACC to arrest two chief executive officers aged between 49 and 79 when they were called to give their statements at the commission's headquarters on Monday.

The duo were suspected of committing malpractice and receiving bribes through payments to three companies located

abroad.

Royal Malaysian Navy Veterans Association president First Admiral (R) Mohamad Imran Abd Hamid lodged a report with MACC on Nov 21 last year over a project to construct six LCS, which were not delivered as scheduled.

The project to construct simultaneously the six LCS worth RM9.128 billion was awarded to BNS by the government through the Defence Ministry and RM6 billion had already been paid.

Until today, not a single LCS

has been completed or delivered to the navy although the contract dated January 2014 stated that the first ship should have been delivered to the government in April, 2019.

In his winding-up speech of the 2021 Supply Bill, Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob, who was at the time the senior defence minister, had said the government rejected the first of three options to salvage the project that was to appoint Naval Group France as the "saviour" company to complete the construction of the LCS.