NEWS PAPER CUTTING ON AUGUST 2021 The star

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Charged with laundering RM100,000

JOHOR BARU: Former youth and sports minister Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman has pleaded not guilty to two counts of money laun-dering involving RM100,000 at the Session Court here. The 28-year-old, who is also Muar MB made the plea after the charge

MP, made the plea after the charge was read to him in front of judge Ahmad Kamal Arifin Ismail yester-

Ahmad Kamai Alimi Samari, Adday.

According to the charge sheet, Syed Saddiq transferred RM50,000 from his bank account into his Amanah Saham Bumiputera account on June 16, 2018 and another RM50,000 on June 19 the same

year.
The offence was allegedly committed at a bank in Taman Perling, Johor Baru.
The charge under Section 4(1)(b) of the Anti-Money Laundering, Anti-Terorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act

Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act 2001 carries a maximum fine of RM5mil, imprisonment of up to five years or both, upon conviction. The prosecution was represented by Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Legal and Prosecution Division deputy direc-tor Wan Shaharuddin Wan Ladin and deputy public prosecutors Ahmad Akram Gharib and Mohd 'Afif Ali.

Syed Saddiq was represented by Gobind Singh Deo, who is also



Back in court: Syed Saddiq (right) and Gobind arriving at the Johor Baru Sessions Court. — THOMAS YONG/The Star

Puchong MP.
Wan Shaharuddin requested the court impose the same bail as Syed Saddig's first case at the Kuala Lumpur Sessions Court recently.
The presention also select the

The prosecution also asked the court to transfer the case to the KL

court to transfer the case to the RL Sessions Court as all the prosecu-tion witnesses were the same ones. The court then allowed all the prosecution's applications and set Sept 10 for mention at the KL Sessions Court.

On July 22, Syed Saddiq claimed trial at the KL Sessions Court to two counts of corruption relating to criminal breach of trust (CBT) and misappropriation of funds that belonged to his former party, Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia.

He pleaded not guilty before judge Azura Alwi.

For the first count, Syed Saddiq, as the youth leader of the party then, was entrusted with the funds belonging to the party's youth wing

Armada Malaysia and he allegedly committed CBT when he withdrew RM1mil using a cheque without the approval of Bersatu's top leader-ship.

ship.
The offence was allegedly committed at CIMB Bank, Menara CIMB KL Sentral, Jalan Stesen Sentral 2 on March 6, 2020.
For the second count, Syed Saddiq

For the second count, Syed Saddiq is accused of misappropriating RM120,000 of contribution money belonging to Bersatu which was meant for the 14th General Election. He allegedly committed the offence at Maybank in Taman Pandan Jaya between April 8 and 21, 2018.

21, 2018.
Separately, Bersatu Youth chief
Wan Ahmad Fayhsal Wan Ahmad
Kamal has denied allegations that
he had asked Syed Saddiq to support Perikatan Nasional.
In a statement, he said that he
had met Syed Saddiq in his private
capacity and as a fried

had met Syed Saddiq in his private capacity and as a friend.
"However, I strongly deny all the allegations levelled against me. I never made any offers or threats. This is false," he said.
Syed Saddiq had alleged that Wan Ahmad Fayhsal, who is Deputy Youth and Sports Minister, had tried to persuade him to support Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and the Perikatan zoverment. and the Perikatan government.



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Engineering dept director detained

ALOR SETAR: The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) has detained an Engineering Department director of a municipal council in Kedah for suspected

abuse of power two years ago.

According to a Kedah MACC source, the 41-year-old man is believed to have misused his position by proposing to the Kedah State Procurement Board that his father's company be appointed to carry out resurfacing and road maintenance work in a district for RM200,000.

Also detained was a 48-year-old man a contractor, who is believed to be involved in

the case.

"Both suspects were detained when they came to give their statements at the Penang MACC office.

"The MACC has also called in several witnesses to facilitate investigations under Section 23 of the MACC Act," the source said.

A remand order is expected to be obtained

at the George Town courts today.

Meanwhile, Kedah MACC director Datuk Shaharom Nizam Abd Manap, who confirmed the detention, said further investigations were underway. — Bernama

THE STAR | 11 August 2021 | Pg 3

Johor Baru mayor arrested

Adib Azhari to appear in court over alleged bribery

By MOHD FARHAAN SHAH and YEE XIANG YUN newsdesk@thestar.com.my

IOHOR BARU: The Johor Baru mayor has been arrested for alleg-edly taking bribes from contractors as an inducement to approve pro-

The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) director Datuk Azmi Alias confirmed that Datuk Adib Azhari Daud (pic) was arrested at the Johor MACC office at around

3pm yesterday.

Investigations showed that Adib Azhari, who is just weeks away from retirement, allegedly accepted money from contractors to approve projects while he was mayor of the Iskandar Puteri City Council (MBIP).

The 60-year-old was the MBIP mayor from Nov 22, 2017, to Nov 16, 2019, before he was appointed as the Johor Baru City Council (MBJB) mayor on Nov 17, 2019.

Before MBIP was upgraded to a city council, he was the president of

the Johor Baru Central Municipal Council (MBIP's previous name) from Jan 17, 2017.

Adib Azhari is expected to be brought to the Magistrate's Court here for a remand application at

The case is being investigated under Section 17(a) of the MACC Act

2009.

When contacted, state local government and housing committee chairman Ayub Jamil declined to comment on the arrest.



SUNDAY STAR, SUNDAY 15 AUGUST 2021 Nation 9

Govt urged to revise MM2H rules

Stricter criteria for the immigration scheme driving away prospective clients

By FATIMAH ZAINAL

PETALING JAYA: Stricter criteria for the Malaysia My Second Home (MM2H) scheme is seeing potential applicants fast losing interest in it, while current participants are find-ing the new requirements hard to

The government is therefore urged to reconsider the recently revised conditions for the programme.

The MMZH programme, started in 2002 and programme.

in 2002 and promoted by the Malaysian Tourism Authority and the Immigration Department, was primarily marketed as a retirement programme.

International Real Estate

programme.
International Real Estate
Federation (FIABCI) president
Datuk Seri Koe Peng Kang said the
new rules, which include increasing the qualifying monthly income
from RM10,000 to RM40,000, should be reviewed as they could cause MM2H to lose its competitive edge compared to the retirement pro-

grammes in regional countries.
"One of the factors that makes
MM2H attractive to foreign retirees is the cost of living in Malaysia, which is much lower than other developed countries. They can stretch their lifetime savings fur-

stretch their medime savings fur-ther by living here.
"The increase in the qualifying monthly income to RM40,000 will exclude this huge group of appli-cants who aspire to have a better quality of living when they retire," said Koe in a statement. said Koe in a statement.



from home: Penang is a favourite мм2н destination. (Inset) Koe.

He suggested lowering the monthly qualifying income to between RM15,000 and RM20,000 for those aged 35-49, as they are more likely to have schoolgoing children, and this will boost demand for characteric in strikting in strikting. for education institutions.

for education institutions.

As for applicants above 50 years old and retirees, Koe said the income base should remain between RM10,000 and RM15,000 per month.

The new stipulation that the minimum stay period must be 90 cumulative days per year should also be revised as the programme only offers a social visa pass, said Koe.

"That would mean the applicant will need to accumulate 900 days in 10 years, which is usually required for Permanent Residency or Green Card applicants in other countries," said Koe, adding that the length of stay should be at the programme participant's convenience.

programme participant's convenience.

As for the fixed deposit requirement, Koe recommended only imposing RM350,000 as the fixed deposit for applicants aged 35-49, as many would be bringing their children here for education.

He also said that instead of an add-on of RM50,000 per dependent,

the government should consider lowering the amount to RM20,000 to make it palatable with the maximum deposit withdrawal of 50% for property purchase, healthcare and education

As for applicants above 50 years old, Koe said RM500,000 would be

oid, Koe said RM500,000 would be the right quantum as they would have sufficient lifetime savings to fulfil the requirement. Koe also said the declaration of RM1.5mil instead of the earlier RM500,000 in liquid assets would be-a challenging criterion given the post-pandemic economic recov-ery for many.

He said that while the government's intention to attract high quality applicants is welcome, he would suggest a better win-win solution where the government could consider only RNImil in liquid assets and RM500,000 in fixed assets instead.

He added that the newly introduced processing fee of RM5,000 for the main applicant and RM2,500 per dependent may also be unreasonable as there were no such fees previously.

sonable as utere were no sturt ness previously.

"We would strongly urge the government to hold multi-layer dialogues and engagement with the stakeholders of this programme to formulate better guidelines which will serve multiple objectives," he said said.

said.

Koe warned that the strict criteria could lead to fewer applications and a large drop in investor interest, adding that some agents have reported that some current applicants have started to indicate a withdrawal of property bookings, citing the drastic change of rules which has caused a huge loss of confidence. confidence.

"It is especially hard for retirees who are currently residing in Malaysia under this programme.

"To a certain extent, it is inconsiderate to demand they seek and strengthen their finances signifi-cantly on such short notice.

"Hence, the authorities must weigh the impact of the new rulings on the current law-abiding second home citizens before it is gazetted,"

The Star | 17 August 2021 | Page

Former Johor Baru mayor out on bail

JOHOR BARU: Former Johor Baru mayor Datuk Adib Azhari Daud has been released on bail by the Magistrate's Court after being remanded for six days.

The 60-year-old was allowed bail of RM50,000 in one surety by magistrate Normadiana Mamat at the end of his remand yesterday.

The court also set additional terms with Adib Azhari required to report to the nearest Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) office once a month.

He was first remanded for three days from Aug 11 to Aug 13 after his arrest on Aug 10 to assist in the investigation of an alleged bribery case involving projects under the Iskandar Puteri City Council (MBIP).

The remand period was extended for four more days from Aug 13 to Aug 16 to investigate the mayor's alleged involvement in corruption.

Adib Azhari was MBIP mayor from Nov 22, 2017 to Nov 16, 2019, before being made Johor Baru City Council (MBJB) mayor.

Initial investigations showed that Adib Azhari allegedly accepted money from contractors to approve projects while he was MBIP mayor.

The case is being investigated under Section 17(a) of the MACC Act 2009.

The Star | 20 August 2021 | Page 9

'Open tender not stated in MOUs'

Deals for Penang project showed no such specification, witness tells court

By RASHVINJEET S. BEDI

KUALA LUMPUR: None of the Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) signed in 2011 between the (MOUS) signed in 2011 between the Penang state government and Beijing Urban Construction Group (BUCG) in relation to the paired roads and undersea tunnel project specified that it would be awarded via an open tender, the Sessions Court heard.

Witness Datuk Lim Hock Seng affirmed this when testifying in the

witness Datuk Lim Hock Seng affirmed this when testifying in the graft trial of former Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng yesterday. "It is not stated in the MOUs," the

councillor said to a question by deputy public prosecutor Shaharuddin Wan Ladin.

Shaharuddin Wan Ladin.
The two MOUs were signed in March 2011 and April 2011, while the tender for the project only opened in July 2012.
Altogether, eight companies including BUGG were shortlisted at the request for proposal (RFP) state.

the request to propositions stage.

The result of the tender which was awarded to BUCG was announced in March 2013.

Hock Seng, however, said that BUCG was verbally told that there would be an open tender for the project despite the MOUs signed.

Hock Seng and Guan Eng were

BUCGS construction of mega pro-jects there.

When asked what was the need for a working visit to china, Hock Seng said it was upon the invitation of then Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao

of then Chinese Premier Wen Jiahao to Guan Eng.
He said the Penang state government paid for the visit.
"At the time, we didn't know who would get the project. We didn't want to give the wrong impression," he said to a question by deputy public prosecutor Nik Haslini Hashim.

part of a 10-member state delega-tion to China in May 2011 to see BUCG's construction of mega proruption charges involving the construction of an undersea tunnel and paired roads project in Penang.
For the first amended charge, the

Bagan MP is charged with using his position as then Penang chief minis-ter to corruptly receive RM3.3mil to ter to corruptly receive RM3.3mil to help a company owned by Datuk Zarul Ahmad Mohd Zulkifli to secure the undersea tunnel and paired roads project in Penang worth RM6.341,383,702. The offence was allegedly com-mitted between January 2011 and August 2017 at the Penang chief minister's office.

minister's office.

The trial continues today.
Guan Eng, 60, is facing four corGuan Eng is charged with soliciting

10% of profits from Zarul to help the company be appointed for the same project. Guan Eng is charged with com-mitting the offence near The Gardens Hotel, Lingkaran Syed Putra, Mid Valley City here in March 2011, between 12.30am and 2am. The former finance minister was

The former finance minister was The former finance minister was also charged with two counts of causing two lots of land owned by the Penang state government worth RM208.8mil to be disposed of by the developer linked to the undersea transporter. tunnel project.

The offences were allegedly committed at the Penang Land and Mines Office, Komtar on Feb 17, 2015 and March 22, 2017.

The Star | 21 August 2021 | Page 9

Conflict of interest raised

BUCG reps joined meetings on Penang project before tender opened, court told

By RASHVINJEET S. BEDI rashvin@thestar.com.my

kUALA LUMPUR: There appeared to be a conflict of interest when the representatives of contractor Beijing Urban Construction Group (BUCG) sat in meetings with Penang government officials in relation to the paired roads and undersea tunnel project before it was opened for tender, the Sessions Court heard.

A senior government official agreed that it was improper for the company to sit in meetings with state government officials in the preparation of documents pertain-

preparation of documents pertain-ing to the project before the tender process started.

Azrai Zaini, 39, who was then an Assistant director in the Penang State Economic Planning Unit (Upen) said that the draft of the doc-uments contained specifications of the projects that would give BUCG an advantage over other companies that were interested to bid for the BUCG had signed two memoran-

that were interested to bid for the project.

"It wasn't proper if they were going to join the request for proposal (RFP) process as bidders (later)," he said when questioned by deputy public prosecutor Wan Shaharuddin Wan Ladin at the graft trial of former Penang chief minister Lim Guan Eng yesterday.

Azrai said that he was only a junior officer who was inexperienced at the time, and did not think that he had to inform his immediate boss about this.

boss about this.

boss about this.

Azral is currently the principal
private secretary to Penang Chief
Minister Chow Kon Yeow.

He said the representatives of
BUCG had three meetings with
Penang state government officials,
the last being in July 2011. The court

heard that the tender for the project was opened a year later.

BUCG had signed two memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with the Penang government in March and April of 2011.

Former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak and former Chinese premier Wen Jiabao had witnessed the MOU that was signed in Putrajaya in April 2011.

Cross-examined by defence counsel Gobind Singh Deo, Azrai however, agreed with the suggestion that there was no issue with the BUCG representatives being at the meetings as they were tied by the MOUs signed. signed.

signed.
Azrai also agreed to a suggestion by Gobind that BUGG did not have an advantage since the bidding for the project only opened one year after the July 2011 meeting.
The hearing continues on Sept 10.

Guan Eng, 60, is facing four corruption charges involving the con-struction of an undersea tunnel and

struction of an undersea tunnel and paired roads project in Penang. For the first amended charge, the Bagan MP is accused of using his position as then Penang chief minister to corruptly receive RM3.3mil to help a company owned by then chairman of Consortium Zenith BUCG Datuk Zarul Ahmad Mohd Zulkifli to secure the undersea tunnel and paired roads project in Penang worth RM6,341,383,702. The offence was allegedly committed between January 2011 and August 2017 at the Penang chief minister's office.

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causing two lots of land owned by the Penang government worth RM208.8mil to be disposed of by the developer linked to the undersea tunnel project.

The offences were allegedly committed at the Penang Land and Mines Office, Konttar on Feb 17, 2015, and March 22, 2017.

BUCG is a large-scale construc-

2015, and March 22, 2017.

BUCG is a large-scale construction company from China which
had joined Consortium Zenith BUCG
that won the tender for the Penang
Undersea Tunnel project in 2013. It
pulled out in 2017 and the corporation was then renamed Consortium
Zenith Construction.

Sunday Star | 22 August 2021 | Page 12

Another engineer remanded in graft probe

SHAH ALAM: The Magistrate's Court here has issued an order for another government department engineer to be remanded for five days to facilitate a corruption investigation.

The order was issued by

Magistrate Court assistant registrar Raden Farah Shirazee Ahmadi fol-Raden Faran Shirazee Ahmadi following an application by the
Malaysian Anti-Corruption
Commission (MACC).
According to a MACC source, the
40-year-old engineer was arrested
on Friday after giving his statement.
On Aug 18, five people including
an engineer and two assistant engineers were ordered to be remand-

neers, were ordered to be remanded for investigation into the same

They are believed to have solicited and received bribes amounting to over RM120,000 from a contractor to obtain projects for a road and a tahfiz in Hulu Selangor. They are also alleged to have solicited and received bribes of

more than RM8,000 for the maintenance and repair of a government office. — Bernama



Irresponsible folk offer doctors RM1,000 for 'hot commodity' to enjoy more liberties

PETALING JAYA: The digital vacci-

PETALING JAYA: The digital vacci-nation certificate has now become a hot "commodity" as the fully vacci-nated are allowed greater liberties and social perks.

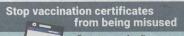
As doors remain shut to the unvaccinated, some unscrupulous parties have made attempts to lie about their vaccination status with fraudulent certificates.

about their vaccination status with raudulent certificates. Private clinics and general practitioners (GP) say they have been getting inquiries from anti-vaxxers, with some offering up to RM1,000, to fake their vaccination status. Federation of Private Medical Practitioners Associations Malaysia president Dr Steven Chow said members had reported getting phone calls requesting to falsify vaccine certificates with offers of up to RM1,000 per certificate. "They are not necessarily anti-vaxxers. They may be people who need to travel urgently. "The cost of the actual unsubsidised self-paying vaccination in a private clinic is RM350 and to offer RM1,000 for a fake document is sussidised self-paying vaccination in a private clinic is RM350 and to offer RM1,000 for a fake document is sussidised and the control of the result of the control of the RM1,000 for a fake document is sussidised self-paying vaccination in a

sidised self-paying vaccination in a private clinic is RM350 and to offer RM1,000 for a fake document is suspicious. The authority should investigate and act early, "he said. Any document, said Dr Chow, or a certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner has a serious legal responsibility attached. "Our advice to doctors is never be a party. The best is to turn then away on the sport. They may actually be agent provocateurs out to snare the unsuspecting doctors. "Everyone should go for proper vacctination via the proper channel to protect themselves," he said. Dr Chow said the Health Ministry should restore trust in our national

ould restore trust in our nationa vaccination programme, adding that issues of fake certificates would only compound the issue of trust deficit.

only compound the issue of trust deficit.
ProtectHealth Corporation Sdn Bhd chief executive officer Dr Anas Alam Faizil also revealed that there had been isolated cases where anti-vaxxers had gone to the vaccination centre (PPV) but refused to roll up their sleeves.
"They only wanted to be recorded as having received their vaccination. PPV is where vaccines are given, not where documents are forged. Such an attitude would not be entertained," he said.
Dr Anas Alam noted that there was a proper process, workflow and standard operating procedure





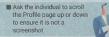
Protect your details:

- Do not share screenshots of your certificate with anyone
- Do not post pictures of your certificate on social media
- If you find out that your certificate has een used by others, lodge a police report

Premises owners to verify certificate:

■ Check the person's Profile page under MySejahtera. Make sure the Covid-19 status is updated to the latest date and the risk status is "low risk" or in blue

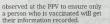
■ Check that the person is fully vaccinated - 14 days after the second dose of the Pfizer. AstraZeneca or Sinovac: or 28 days after a single-dose Johnson & Johnson or CanSino



For added verification, check government's Vaccine Certificate Verifier app

Cross-check the person's

MyKad number with the certificate details



observed at the PPV to ensure only a person who is vaccinated will get their information recorded. Recently, the police have also started investigations into the alleged sale of fake digital vaccination certificates, which was highlighted on social media.

Malaysia Medical Practitioners Coalition Association president Dr Raj Kumar Maharajah said doctors had increasingly been receiving requests from people asking to be verified as vaccinated even though they declined to get the jab. "Yes we have had our share of people who only want the vaccination certificates. Some people have come for their appointments asking not to be lingeted as they only want the certificates," he said.

However, the numbers of those who wish to do so were very small.

he said, as most people understand the damage Covid-19 can wreak and want to be protected.

To prevent legitimate certificates from being forged or stolen, he told people not to share pictures of their certificate or social media.

He also advised staff members at premises to scan the code on the certificate to verify its authenticity. General practitioner Dr Arisman Wenge Abdu Rahman said some of his medical -colleagues had been approached to falsify the vaccination status of those who refused to get jabbed.

tion status of those ware two get jabbed.

These individuals approach the doctors and boast that they are willing to pay to get the certificates without getting the jabs.

They will come and whisper to the medical personnel at the vaccination centres and ask them to pre-



tend to administer the vaccinies," he said, adding that he had not heard of any staff members taking up such an offer to date.

Like Dr. Raj Kumar, he advised the public to keep their digital vaccination certificates private.

"Don't show the certificate on social media or any other platform such as WhatsApp. Anyone can take advantage and commit a misdeed, he said.

He stressed that the government's allowance of certain activities for those fully vaccinated was not a form of discrimination.

"The aim is to reduce the risk of transmission among those who

transmission among those who have yet to receive their vaccinahave yet to receive their vaccina-tions. Moreover, we hope allowing more freedom for the fully vacci-nated will encourage those who are hesitant to receive the vaccine. We want everyone in Malaysia to be protected," he said. Dr Khairul Hafidz Alkhair Khairul Amin, the handler of Twitter account MedTweetMY, said falsify-ing one's vaccination status was an unethical action.

unethical action.

"If people do not want to receive the vaccine, that is their right, but they must understand that it is tright of others to be protected.

"If there are unvaccinated people who, are carriers of the virus and they go to premises to dine in, they risk spreading the virus to others who are there.
"They will not only cause infections to spread, but may also incur

losses for the owner of the premises who has to close the place for santissation," he said.

His advice to those who have found their vaccination certificate details compromised is to lodge a police report.

A doctor from a clinic in Penang also shared a similar situation. "We started getting many calls from random people since two weeks ago, when we started giving the Covid-19 vaccines to the public," said the doctor.

weekes ago, when we started grows and the Covid-19 vaccines to the public, said the doctor. He said when the caller was told that the clinic did not offer such llegal services, the caller said he was willing to pay RMI,000 just to get the vaccination certificate.

As callers usually hang up after knowing their requests cannot be met, he said clinics usually did not lodge reports due to a lack of information.

Another clinic in Skudai, Johor said its staff had also been getting calls from anti-vaxxers larely, with cash offers for the certificate without vaccination.

"Dear all, our doctor does not

"Dear all, our potor does not provide this kind of service. Please don't do this, anti-vaxxers, and stop bribing doctors!" it said on its Facebook page.



Forging digital cert is a serious offence, says Bukit Aman

netted to forging digital vaccination certificates because it is a serious offence, says Comm Datuk Seri Abd Jalil Hassan. PETALING JAYA: The public must

serious offence. The police are monitoring the situation closely," he said yesterds, Comm Abd Jaill said the police received a report in Kedah on Aug 15 in connection with the forging of digital vaccination certificates.

He advised those with information on fake digital vaccination certificates.

diately.

Meanwhile, Melaka police said desperation to get the vaccination certificates had prompted some

MySejahtera app.
State Commercial Crime chief
Supt F. Sundra Rajan said the first
cheating case involving MySejahtera
was reported in the state this month.
"A foreigner misused the app
belonging to a local man from Alor
Gajah to get vaccinated.
"We traced the culprit and investigation showed the foreigner wanted to obtain the digital certificate to
enjoy the privilege of those who are
fully vaccinated," he said yesterday.
Supt Sundra said that from pre-

who were found cheating were illegal immigrants.
"Getting the digital certification is like buying gold," he said.
The second cheating case involved a foreign woman.
The woman was arrested shortly after she got vaccinated at a private clinic in Cheng here on Aug 18.
Supt Sundra said the suspect had misused her colleague's MySejahtera account to cheat the doctor.
"The employer had suspected something amiss when he couldn't

cination before he discovered it was used by the suspect," he said.

Supt Sundra said the female suspect was arrested along with three countrymen and a local.

All four, aged between 35 and 45, are being remanded to assist investigation under Section 420 of the Penal Code and Immigration Act 1959/1963.

Bukit Aman has given the green

The Star | 28 August 2021 | Page 7

Big Blue Taxi Services founder claims trial to bribery charge

By NURBAITI HAMDAN nurbaiti@thestar.com.my

RUALA LUMPUR: Big Blue Taxi Services founder Datuk Sham-subahrin Ismail has claimed trial at the Sessions Court here to a charge of bribery involving RM10,000.

Shamsubahrin, SS, pleaded not guilty after the charge was read out to him before Sessions Court judge Rozina Ayub here yesterday.

According to the charge sheet Shamsubahrin allegedly accepted for himself a RM10,000 bribe through a bank account belonging to one Yusfazila Md Yusoff, 38, as an inducement for him to help resolve

a case involving Azizan Mohamed Yasin at the Court of Appeal.

The businessman was accused of committing the offence at Ambank, Islam Yap Rwan Seng at about 1.45pm on March 4.

The charge under Section 16(a) (A) of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Act 2009 provides for imprisonment up to 20 years and a fine of up to five times the amount of gratification or RM10,000, whichever is higher, if convicted.

Prosecuting officer Abd Muntagim Abdul Aziz from the MACC offered bail at RM5,000 bail in one surety.

Lawyer Muhammad Noor Azian Noor Noor Noor



Off to court: arriving at the Sessions Court in Kuala Lumpur to face charges of accepting a RM10,000 bribe in March — Bernama