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**Nation**

## Magistrate jailed and fined for graft

Magistrate gets 58 years'  
jail and RM1.05mil in fines  
for six counts of corruption.  
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# Magistrate jailed 58 years for graft

Official also slapped with RM1.05mil in fines

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**KUANTAN:** A magistrate who used to pass judgment on wrongdoing found himself on the other end of the law when he was found guilty of six counts of corruption.

Mohamad Amin Shahul Hamid, 41, was sentenced to a total of 58 years' jail and a RM1.05mil fine in default 72 months' in prison after Sessions Court judge Ahmad Zamzani Mohd Zain ruled that the defence had failed to raise reasonable doubt in its case.

In delivering the verdict, the judge said Mohamad Amin's defence was an afterthought and a bare denial.

As Ahmad Zamzani ordered the jail sentences to run concurrently,

Mohamad Amin would only serve 12 years in jail.

Mohamad Amin, who used to serve in the Lipis and Raub Magistrate's courts, was charged with soliciting bribes amounting to RM100,000 and receiving RM110,000 from one Hassan Basri Ahmad Sutan Modo between July 5 and Oct 22, 2019.

The bribes were an inducement for Mohamad Amin not to fine and jail Hassan Basri who was then facing a charge of possession of smuggled cigarettes.

Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission deputy public prosecutor Wan Shaharuddin Wan Ladin asked for a heavy sentence, saying that Mohamad Amin never showed any remorse for his actions.

"This is akin to the proverb 'hara-

pan pagar, pagar makan padi'. His actions were an embarrassment to the judicial system and civil service," he said during the court proceedings yesterday.

Wan Shaharuddin said Mohamad Amin also had no shame as he personally solicited and collected the bribe money himself.

In mitigation, lawyer S. Meheraj asked for a lighter sentence, saying that Mohamad Amin was a first-time offender and had previously served with excellence as a magistrate.

Ahmad Zamzani allowed a stay of execution on the sentence pending an appeal from the defence.

The judge also set an additional bail of RM25,000 for Mohamad Amin with one surety, bringing the total bail to RM50,000.



Wrong side of the law: Magistrate Mohamad Amin at the Sessions Court in Kuantan.  
— Bernama

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## Ex-GLC officer charged with fraud involving millions

**JOHOR BARU:** The former president and chief executive officer of a government-linked company has been charged at the Sessions Court here with fraud involving millions of ringgit.

Datuk Kamaruzzaman Abu Kassim, 58, pleaded not guilty to having deceived the board members of Johor Corporation (JCorp) to invest millions of ringgit in World Logistics Council Limited, which could no longer continue its operation.

According to the charge sheet, Kamaruzzaman had encouraged the board members to agree with his

proposal and approved a US\$5mil (RM21mil) temporary fund where US\$1mil (RM4.21mil) from the fund were later used to invest in World Logistics Council Limited while another US\$1.25mil (RM5.26mil) were invested to World Logistics Council Americas LLC.

He is accused of committing the offence on July 8, 2019 at a board of directors meeting room in Menara Komtar Johor Baru between 9.30am and 1.45pm.

The charge was read in front of judge Wan Mohd Norisham Wan Yaakob at the Johor Baru Sessions Court here on Tuesday.

Kamaruzzaman was represented by lawyer K. Ragunath while the case was handled by Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) deputy public prosecutor Zander Lim Wai Keong.

He was charged under Section 420 of the Penal Code with cheating where if found guilty, he could face a maximum of 10 years imprisonment with whippings and fines.

Judge Wan Mohd Norisham set bail at RM150,000 with one surety and May 25 for mention.

He also set additional conditions for the accused where he is required to hand over his passport to the

court, report to the nearest MACC office once a month and not communicate with the witnesses involved in the case, especially those from JCorp.

However, his lawyer requested that the handover of the passport be done at a later date as the accused and his wife would be attending the Hajj pilgrimage between April 7 and 18. The judge approved the request and allowed the passport to be handed over to the court latest by April 23.

The accused posted bail.

Kamaruzzaman was the president and chief executive officer of JCorp between 2010 and 2019.

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## Nine nabbed for falsifying documents

KOTA KINABALU: Nine contractors who submitted false bank statements in their bid for a canteen management contract worth RM200,000 were arrested by graft investigators in Tawau.

Sources said the suspects, aged between 29 and 56, committed the offence while tendering for the two-year canteen management contract in 2017.

It was understood that the contractors comprising four women and five men, were arrested at 10am yesterday at the Tawau MACC office.

Sabah MACC director Datuk S. Karunanithy confirmed the arrests and said the case will be investigated under Section 471 of the Penal Code, adding that the suspects would be charged in the Special Corruption Court in Tawau soon.

Last week, he said the MACC in Keningau had also arrested two contractors aged between 25 to 32 years for submitting false bank statements to bid for a RM5mil contract.

He said the two suspects, a man and a woman, were arrested for allegedly submitting false bank account statements to obtain tenders for food supply services for primary and secondary boarding schools.

Karunanithy warned contractors that submitting false documents to get contracts was an offence under the law, and urged them to stop the practice which he described as happening "often" in Sabah.