

Shahrizat sues PKR duo

Minister files RM100mil defamation suit over NFC statements

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KUALA LUMPUR: Women, Family and Community Development Minister Datuk Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil is suing two PKR leaders for RM100mil over defamatory statements relating to the National Feedlot Corporation Sdn Bhd (NFC).

In the lawsuit filed by her lead counsel Datuk Seri Dr Muhammad Shafee Abdullah at the High Court here yesterday, she said both PKR strategic director Rafizi Ramli and Wanita chief Zuraida Kamaruddin

started holding a series of press conferences in various locations, including the Parliament lobby, in an "orchestrated attack" against NFC, her husband and family.

Shahrizat, whose husband Datuk Seri Dr Mohamed Salleh Ismail is NFC executive chairman, said their defamatory statements implied that her involvement would drag in both Umno and Barisan Nasional.

She said both Rafizi and Zuraida had issued various statements, held press conferences and published articles on their blogs or the PKR's official news website www.keadilandaily.com on the matter.

The minister also alleged that both leaders launched a series of scathing and malicious attacks against her by attaching culpability to her for all issues relating to NFC, despite the fact that she did not hold any position or equity in the corporation, Agrosience Industries and any associated company.

Shahrizat said her husband and their three children were shareholders and directors of Agrosience Industries, which almost entirely owns NFC's paid up capital, except for a single preference share held by the Government.

She stressed that she was not involved in any part of the decision-making process to award the feedlot project to Agrosience.

In her suit, Shahrizat is seeking an injunction to restrain the two PKR leaders from further making statements as well as costs, interests and other reliefs deemed fit by the court.

In an immediate reaction, Rafizi said all his statements were true, adding that they had before this discussed the possibility of a lawsuit with their lawyers.

"Both Zuraida and I are ready to face the lawyers in court," he said.

NFC papers returned to cops for further probe

By **STEVEN DANIEL**
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KUALA LUMPUR: The investigation papers on the National Feedlot Corporation (NFC), which was submitted to the Attorney-General's Chambers has been returned to the police for further investigations.

It is learnt that the papers were returned to the police on Tuesday following discussions between both

parties and the need for more details.

"There are still aspects that need to be investigated and we are conducting our investigations as thoroughly as possible," Federal Commercial Crime director Datuk Syed Ismail Syed Azizan said yesterday. However, he declined to set a timeline as to when the papers would be re-submitted.

It was reported on Sunday that

the police had completed their probe after recording over 50 statements from various witnesses, including the staff of NFC.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak announced on Saturday that the assets of the NFC had been frozen pending investigations.

The NFC issue came to light in October after the Auditor-General's Report revealed that the RM250mil cattle breeding project had failed to

meet its target.

Women, Family and Community Development Minister Datuk Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil's husband Datuk Seri Dr Mohamed Salleh Ismail is NFC's executive chairman.

Shahrizat has taken a three-week leave from her ministerial duties beginning Jan 12 to facilitate Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission investigations into the NFC controversy.