

Rafizi in breach of banking act, says NFCorp

PETALING JAYA: The National Feedlot Corporation yesterday lodged a police report against PKR strategy director Rafizi Ramli for an alleged breach of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act (Bafia) 1989.

In the report, NFCorp chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Salleh Ismail said Rafizi had at a press conference on March 7, violated Section 97 (1) and (3) of the Act by revealing confidential details of 21 entities without the consent of the entities nor their directors.

"We have engaged lawyers to take action against Rafizi, who has caused to be distributed, propagated and published defamatory statements or misinformation about ourselves, NFCorp and its related companies by his statements, founded on a combination of distortion of facts, cherry-picked figures and outrageous lies," Salleh said in a statement.

NFCorp accuses Rafizi of distributing banking details and credit ratings of NFCorp, National Meat and Livestock Corporation Sdn Bhd, Real Food Company Sdn Bhd, Agrosience Industries Sdn Bhd as well as personal bank details of the directors and shareholders of the companies.

The Fourth Schedule of Section 103 of the Act prescribes a penalty of up to three years

imprisonment and a maximum fine of RM3 million for any contravention of Section 97 (1) and (3).

Salleh also accused Rafizi of slander in relation to his financial standing by implying he was not creditworthy of loans that he had taken personal loans leveraging on a government soft loan deposit, and that he had specifically taken personal loans for private investments in KL Eco City.

"Rafizi misled the media and public with his deliberate distortion of facts. There was never any loan taken for KL Eco City investments," he said.

Lawyers for the companies and their directors are also in the midst of filing a suit against the bank which they say provided Rafizi with the information, for its failure to comply with their clients' demands.

NFCorp had earlier lodged a formal complaint against the bank and urged the police and Bank Negara to investigate Rafizi's claims.

"We are concerned that his wild accusations without full and correct facts have been made to tarnish our reputation and business. Rafizi went so far as to break the law when he colluded with certain employees of the bank in breaching Bafia," Salleh said.

Rafizi could not be reached for comment