

# 'NFCorp reps not skilled'

## PAC: Inconsistencies in the way govt officials issue instructions

GOVERNMENT representatives in the National Feedlot Corporation (NFCorp) were not very skilled and knowledgeable in their duties as the company's directors, said the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) chairman Datuk Seri Azmi Khalid.

He said the PAC found "quite a number" of weaknesses in the standard operating procedures (SOP) practised by the Finance and Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry ministries in handling NFCorp.

"There were weaknesses in the way officials representing the ministries in NFCorp had issued instructions.



Reports by **MARTIN CARVALHO,**  
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"Ministry officials in NFCorp were not very skilled in their duties as part of the company's board of directors.

"Perhaps they were aware of their responsibilities but they did not take

measures to ensure that proper procedures were carried out," he told reporters after chairing the PAC meeting at Parliament House.

The five-hour meeting saw the PAC interview officials from the two ministries.

Azmi said the weaknesses in the system occurred because orders from the top were inadequate.

He said there were specific rules in the Companies Act 1965 which the directors should have understood and known.

"The ministries appointed their officers to sit on the board of NFCorp and I do not know if they were given

proper instructions. Whatever we came across sounded like the SOP was not properly spelt out," he said.

Azmi said weaknesses were found in the SOP for various matters, including the tender process and implementation.

PAC member Tony Pua (DAP-Petaling Jaya Utara) said among the SOP the committee looked into were the way agreements were finalised, the monitoring of project reports and the duties of a director.

When asked if the SOP weaknesses were minor or major, Azmi said if they were minor, the controversy would not have "exploded".