

# MACC panel clears Shahrizat

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Operations Review Panel (PPO) yesterday cleared Datuk Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil of any wrongdoing over the National Feedlot Corporation (NFCorp) issue.

PPO chairman Tan Sri Dr Hade-nan Abdul Jalil said the investigations had approached the case on two aspects; on whether Shahrizat was involved in the process of getting the RM250 million soft loan and whether she was also involved in the awarding of the contract for the National Feedlot Centre.

"After further investigations, we found that Shahrizat had nothing to do with the awarding of the RM250 million loan," he said.

The national feedlot scandal first came to light in the 2010 Auditor-General's Report, which indicated that there were weaknesses in the corporation in achieving its objectives. In 2007, the government approved a RM250 million soft loan to

the corporation at two per cent annual interest to enable the corporation to start a national feedlot centre to reduce beef imports but NFC's assets had been frozen since.

Shahrizat's husband, Datuk Seri Dr Mohamed Salleh Ismail, is the chairman of NFCorp.

On March 12, Salleh was charged in the Kuala Lumpur Sessions Court with two counts of committing criminal breach of trust involving a total of RM49.7 million and two counts of violating the Companies Act. Salleh had pleaded not guilty to all four counts.

He was also accused of banking in RM40 million into his company National Meat and Livestock Corporation Sdn Bhd's (NMLC) account and purchasing two con-

dominium units in Bangsar for RM9,758,140 in 2009.

Shahrizat resigned as women, family and community development minister on April 8 but she remained Wanita Barisan Nasional and Wanita Umno chief.



**Datuk Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil** quit as women, family and community development minister on April 8