



JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN VETERINAR MALAYSIA

LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA

11 FEBRUARI 2021

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DISEDIAKAN OLEH:

**SEKSYEN KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN VETERINAR MALAYSIA**

ALLEGED BRIBE BY MEAT CARTEL

LODGE REPORT, URGES MACC

MACC ready to probe into former minister's claims he was offered luxury trip

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FORMER minister Datuk Seri Salahuddin Ayub has been urged to report to the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) over claims that he was offered a bribe.

Earlier this week, Salahuddin revealed to the *New Straits Times* that he was offered an all-expenses-paid trip to Europe for him and his family by a company linked to a meat cartel.

Salahuddin was the agriculture and agro-based industry minister at the time the alleged offer was made.

MACC Chief Commissioner Datuk Seri Azam Baki said the anti-graft agency was ready to investigate his claims.

"If he (Salahuddin) was truly offered the luxury holiday trip by the import company, then he should



Datuk Seri
Salahuddin Ayub

come forward and report to the MACC," he said in a text message yesterday.

Last year, the NST, in its report, shed light on the activities of the meat cartel that had allegedly been in operation for more than 40 years.

Sources had claimed senior officers from no fewer than four government agencies were believed to be working hand in glove with the syndicate to bring non-certified meat into Malaysia and distribute them as halal-certified products.

The senior officers had alleged-

ly turned a blind eye to the cartel's operations and allowed its activities to go undetected.

They were alleged to have received money as bribes and, in some cases, also solicited women for sex.

The NST also reported on the presence of cold storage warehouses that had been used to mix beef from certified and non-certified abattoirs.

Following the reports, MACC made a series of arrests. Up to Feb 2, 11 people have been arrested. They included five Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services Department officers, a delivery agent, as well as directors and employees of two import companies.

MIXING OF FROZEN BEEF FROM UNCERTIFIED ABATTOIRS

Ministry to probe into Puchong warehouse

KUALA LUMPUR: The Agriculture and Food Industries Ministry has given an assurance that an investigation will be carried out into the mixing of frozen beef from uncertified abattoirs at a Puchong cold storage warehouse recently.

Its deputy minister, Datuk Che Abdullah Mat Nawi, said the ministry was committed to investigating any company that misused import permits to bring in supplies from uncertified sources.



The Puchong cold storage warehouse which was raided by the authorities last Friday. PIC COURTESY OF POLICE

"Of course, we will (investigate the Puchong company). Previously, the (agriculture and food industries) minister had given an assurance to cancel permits if they misused them and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Com-

mission (MACC) is committed to investigating the matter," he told the *New Straits Times*.

He was responding to queries on the raid and seizure of three containers of frozen beef by the authorities in Puchong last Friday.

The Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services Department (Maqis) said the frozen beef was from an uncertified abattoir. It said the frozen beef was a mixture of meat from certified and uncertified abattoirs.

Che Abdullah urged companies with valid import permits to make full use of them while respecting the sensitivities of Muslims in the country.

"Be responsible and sensible. Do not do anything that will cause public concern."

Meanwhile, the NST has received information that the company in Puchong had been in the carcass meat business for about 15 years with some of the supplies coming from uncertified sources without halal certification.

The company is believed to be using fake proxy companies, which have valid import permits, to bring in parts such as bones, lungs, tail and stomach.

The company is also believed to be supplying the products to local markets in the Klang Valley.



Datuk Che Abdullah Mat Nawi

| | PRAYER TIMES | | | | | |
|------------|---------------|--------|-------|--------------|---------|-------|
| | SUBUH (am) | SYURUK | ZUHUR | ASAR (pm) | MAGHRIB | ISYAK |
| Melaka | 6:15 | 7:25 | 1:28 | 4:47 | 7:28 | 8:39 |
| Penang | 6:25 | 7:33 | 1:35 | 4:55 | 7:32 | 8:43 |
| K. Lumpur | 6:19 | 7:16 | 1:30 | 4:50 | 7:29 | 8:40 |
| Johor Baru | 6:08 | 7:18 | 1:22 | 4:41 | 7:22 | 8:33 |
| Kuantan | 6:12 | 7:22 | 1:25 | 4:44 | 7:24 | 8:31 |
| Ipoh | 6:22 | 7:29 | 1:33 | 4:53 | 7:31 | 8:42 |

By Mohamed Basyir