



JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN VETERINAR MALAYSIA

LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA

07 MAC 2021

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DISEDIAKAN OLEH:

SEKSYEN KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN VETERINAR MALAYSIA

Kartel import daging masih aktif

Nama buruh am sebagai ‘pengarah’ masih digunakan

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Kuala Lumpur: Operasi kartel mengimport daging diragui status halalnya, dengan menggunakan nama syarikat pemilik Bumiputera, dikesan masih aktif apabila bekalan yang cuba dibawa masuk, ditahan pihak berkuasa di sebuah zon bebas pelabuhan, baru-baru ini.

Berdasarkan dokumen diterima dan dilihat BH, syarikat prosesi itu mengimport bekalan sejak 2019. Semakan mendapati, nama seorang buruh am dinyatakan sebagai ‘pengarah’ dengan pegangan saham RM250,000.

Syarikat itu mempunyai status

pengimport sah dengan Jabatan Perkhidmatan Kuarantin dan Periksaan Malaysia (MAQIS). Namun, lelaki dinamakan sebagai ‘pengarah’ dan pemegang syer, langsung tidak mengetahui kedudukan dirinya dalam syarikat terbabit.

Sepanjang 2019, syarikat itu mengimport 195 tan daging bernilai kira-kira RM2.4 juta, manakala tahun lalu, lebih 320 tan bernilai lebih RM3 juta dibawa masuk, khususnya dari Brazil dan Australia.

Kegiatan syarikat itu yang berterusan menggunakan namanya sebagai ‘pengarah’ menyebabkan buruh berusia 37 tahun terbabit membuat dua laporan polis, tetapi setakat ini gagal menghentikan perbuatan tidak bertanggungjawab itu.

Mangsa bimbang dikenakan tindakan oleh pihak berkuasa kerana namanya masih disenaraikan sebagai pengarah syarikat, sedangkan langsung tiada kena mengena dengan kegiatan meng-

import daging diragui status halal itu.

“Saya amat berharap perkara ini dapat diselesaikan pihak berkuasa. Sebelum ini, saya pernah dikunjungi pihak berkuasa berkaitan yang mengambil keterangan,” katanya kepada BH.

Mangsa berkata, walaupun tidak gentar sebab yakin tidak bersalah kerana tidak terbabit aktiviti ‘haram’ syarikat itu, namun beliau bimbang keselamatan isteri dan dua anak.

“Risau dan kasihan anak, mereka kelihatan takut apabila pihak berkuasa datang ke rumah.

“Saya faham benda seperti ini tidak mudah diselesaikan, namun amat berharap nama saya dapat dibersihkan,” katanya.

Sebelum ini, BH pernah melaporkan syarikat proksi ditubuhkan kartel pembekal daging sejuk beku di negara ini, dinamakan dengan nama berunsur islamik dan kemelayuan untuk meraih keyakinan pengguna Islam.

MAQIS tidak ada kuasa halang syarikat proksi

Kuala Lumpur: Jabatan Perkhidmatan Kuarantin dan Pemeriksaan Malaysia (MAQIS) tiada kuasa menghalang mana-mana syarikat proksi mengimport bekalan daging sejuk beku ke negara ini.

Ketua Pengarahnya, Saiful Yazan Mat Alwi, menjelaskan mana-mana pihak boleh mengimport masuk bekalan daging sejuk beku, asalkan mematuhi peraturan ditetapkan.

Beliau berkata, mana-mana pengimport mesti mempunyai permit import dan mematuhi semua peraturan ditetapkan MAQIS, sebelum membawa masuk bekalan.

“Malaysia negara dagang, jadi negara mengalukan sektor import, penggunaan syarikat sama ada proksi atau tidak, adalah takтик perniagaan.

“Selagi mereka memenuhi syarat permit, mereka boleh mengimportnya, syarikat bebas berniaga,” katanya kepada BH.

Beliau mengulas modus operandi menggunakan syarikat proksi untuk membawa bekalan daging diragui halal masuk ke pelabuhan dilihat masih aktif dipercayai di-dalangi kartel.

Pada masa sama, Saiful Yazan

berkata, mana-mana individu yang berasakan diri mereka digunakan identitinya untuk menubuhkan syarikat, mereka diminta membuat laporan polis untuk tindakan selanjutnya.

Beliau berkata, pengimport daging sejuk beku memerlukan permit import (IP), iaitu berbeza dengan ayam yang memerlukan permit diluluskan (AP).

Ini kerana, bekalan daging tempatan tidak mencukupi dan hanya sekadar memenuhi kira-kira 30 peratus kegunaan domestik.

“IP yang dikeluarkan ini bukan tujuan untuk meraih keuntungan, namun sebagai mekanisme kawalan,” katanya.

Selagi mereka memenuhi syarat permit, mereka boleh mengimportnya, syarikat bebas berniaga.

Saiful Yazan Mat Alwi,
Ketua Pengarah MAQIS

07.03.2021

BERITA AHAD

NASIONAL

12 &13

Nasional

Pindaan akta mampu perkukuh kuasa bertindak MAQIS

Selangor (7) Ibu pindaan akta ini terhad ketika Mewajah Jelawatkan Menegah Asri Ramadhan dilengserkan Perdana Menteri pada 2018. Ketua Setiausaha kerajaan dalam jawatan khas ini adalah jawatan khas yang berada di bawah Menteri Besar serta berada di bawah tanggungjawabnya.

Dalam itu, ketika pengesahan Akta MAQIS 2011, Selangor menyatakan bahawa ia bukanlah hakikat kepentingan pemerintah negara di peringkat negeri. Selain itu, ia bukanlah hakikat kepentingan negara di peringkat negeri.

“Saya sampaikan hal yang sama,” kata Syed Zayan Mat Ali.

Berdasarkan maklumat yang diberikan oleh Selangor, ia bukanlah hakikat kepentingan negara di peringkat negeri. Selain itu, ia bukanlah hakikat kepentingan negara di peringkat negeri.

“Selain permohonan perjelasan pada awalnya, Selangor tentu spudah berhak diputus, perkara setan te-

pembangkaran kegiatan kartel daging import dari beberapa negara luar sehingga menyebabkan status kesihatan dan halaliti diragui menggemparkan masyarakat. Itu menimbulkan persoalan sejauh mana integriti penguasa yang sepertinya melakukan pemerkasaan dan pemeriksaan di pintu masuk negara dan apakah penambahanan untuk mengelak hal sebegini berulang kali wawancara wartawan BH, Suzalina Halid bersama Ketua Pengarah Jabatan Perkhidmatan Kuarantin dan Pemeriksaan Malaysia (MAQIS), Saiful Yazan Mat Ali.

Pindaan akta yang dibuat pada 2017, Selangor terbesar diadang membabitkan kuasa MAQIS tidak lagi terhad di tiga tempat terbabit. Selepas pindaan, MAQIS boleh melaksanakan pelbagai (kaedah pengurusan) seperti sekatan jalan dan serbuan sendiri.

Saiful Yazan Mat Ali,
Ketua Pengarah MAQIS

pintu masuk di Semerangking

Malaysia. Makaab puntabe akta dibentuk selepas itu kartel dibungkarkan.

JMAQIS amat berharap kauh kepada Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam (JPA) dan Kementerian Ke-

mangan kerana melibatkan pa-

nahuan kerajaan setiap isu kartel dimakan.

Walupun dalam kesudah-

pannya, ia bukanlah hakikat

kepentingan negara di peringkat

negara, ia tetap berlaku se-

lebih-lebihnya kerana ia

berlaku di peringkat negara

sejauh ini.

“Selain itu, ia merupakan

perintah tertulis yang

dilaksanakan.

“Selain itu, ia merupakan

MEAT CARTEL SCANDAL

CARTELS CONTINUE TO USE PROXY FIRMS

One alleged owner of a 'ghost company' is at risk of facing legal action

KUALA LUMPUR

THE use of fronts or proxy companies as a medium to bring in meat supplies from uncertified sources remains as cartels continue to run their illicit activities.

Worse, real persons were named as "owners" and "directors" of these dubious companies, despite their alleged non-existent involvement with the entities, as seen with at least one which was registered under a Bumiputra owner.

The company is legally registered and certified by local authorities as a business entity dealing in and importing agricultural products.

Nevertheless, transaction documents, as revealed by sources to the *New Straits Times* and *Berita Harian* in December, showed the

same company had been used as a proxy since its inception in 2019.

The documents recorded the sourcing of frozen meat from Brazil and approved by the company's purported owner and director.

"It is unknown how a 'ghost company' is still being used as a legitimate business on paper and go undetected by government agencies," sources said.

In 2019, 195 tonnes of frozen meat, with an estimated value of RM2.4 million, came in through the proxy company.

Last year alone, despite the Movement Control Order (MCO), the company imported 326 tonnes of supplies worth RM3 million.

Sources revealed that several containers of beef supplies from uncertified abattoirs entered the country through the company.



Some traders in the Klang Valley might have sourced beef from a warehouse in Puchong, which was raided in February for mixing meat from certified and uncertified abattoirs. PIC BY MOHAMAD SHAHRI BADRI SAJID

It was also found that a fake health certification from Australia was used to bring in the beef under the company's name, as investigators pondered about the possible involvement of government agencies.

The use of real names to mask the illegality of the company provides cartels with a scapegoat and red herring to deter authorities from zooming in on the actual masterminds.

The alleged owner of the purported Bumiputra-owned company is now at risk of facing legal action, as the cartel moves away to set up another proxy.

Checks at local markets in Klang Valley found that some traders had their supplies packed in boxes that looked similar to the ones seized by authorities last month.

NST and BH found the traders had their supplies packed in boxes that looked similar to the ones seized by authorities last month.

Last year, The NST frontpaged a report about the meat cartel, which had been in operation for

more than 40 years.

Senior officers from no fewer than four government agencies were believed to be working hand in glove with the cartel specialising in bringing non-certified meat into Malaysia and passing it off as halal-certified products.

These senior officers, entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring that halal standards were upheld, instead received money, and even women for sex as bribes in order to turn a blind eye to the cartel's operations.

In February, authorities raided the cold storage warehouse in Puchong where 12 men, including 11 foreigners, were detained.

The Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services Department confirmed that frozen beef seized from the warehouse was from an uncertified abattoir.

'It breaks my heart to see my family endure this'

KUALA LUMPUR:A 37-year-old man was baffled over his identity being repeatedly used as a "director" of a company to bring in meat from dubious sources.

This was even after he had lodged a police report in the middle of last year over a similar case which linked him to the meat cartels.

The man also lodged a second report following a raid by the authorities at one of the seaports here to seize meat of dubious source earlier this year.

He is hoping he can be cleared of all allegations of involvement.

"I hope the case will be solved

as soon as possible.

"The authorities have already taken my statements. It breaks my heart to see my family going through this. I just hope everything will end well."

NST reported last year that the cartel responsible for importing meat and passing it off as halal in Malaysia is believed to have used proxy companies as the conduit for their products into the country.

It is understood that the cartel has between six and 12 proxy companies set up for this purpose, using Bumiputera individuals as company directors.

Maqis: Proxy firms can import frozen meat

PUTRAJAYA: The Malaysian Quarantine and Inspection Services Department (Maqis) said any party can import frozen meat into the country, even if it is a "proxy" company.

Maqis director-general Saiful Yazan Alwi told the NST and BH that as long as the party fulfilled the criteria and requirement to obtain import permits from the government, it could carry out its business.

"Malaysia is a trading nation, so we welcome those who want to be involved in the import business."

When asked on the use of proxy companies or "dummy setups", Saiful said it was allowed.

"Those are just tactics in businesses. If they (business entities) fulfil the permit requirements, that they are allowed to import

their supplies," he said at his office here recently.

On the illegal use of a person's identity to set up a bogus company, Saiful advised that police reports be lodged.

At the same time, he said the import of frozen beef was unlike the import of chicken meat.

He said the supply of local chicken meat was sufficient to meet domestic consumption, while its import was mainly for manufacturing processed food products.

On the other hand, beef was insufficient to meet local demand.

"We issue permits as a mechanism to control the import of chicken. But it is not the same for beef."

"Local fresh beef supply can meet only 30 per cent of the cur-

rent domestic demand. That is why we encourage the import of frozen beef."

However, he said the meat must be only from certified sources and obtained via legal means.

Following the planned amendments to the Maqis Act 2011, Saiful hoped more could be done to stem smuggling.

Thirty-nine amendments were recommended in a paper to be reviewed by the Attorney-General's Chambers, before its tabling in the Dewan Rakyat.

"With the amendments, we can directly raid the warehouses to take action."

On a related matter, Saiful said the meat cartels were growing smarter in their strategies to smuggle in uncertified meat.

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'The syndicates will always look for loopholes'

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He said some of the cases involved forged documents, such as health documents and halal certifications.

"This year alone, two of the 149 investigations conducted so far involved forged documents.

"The syndicates will always look for loopholes. The smugglers are smarter than the enforcement unit."

He said some of the smugglers were industry players themselves who used sophisticated technology to fool the authorities.

"But we manage to see through their plans by holding thorough checks at all entry points."

Among others, Maqis would take time go through each container and inspect the contents using snake-eye cameras.

They will also liaise with international agencies from the respective countries of origin to ensure the presented documents are legitimate.

"We go container by container, and this leads to long queues at the ports.

"But it is something we have to do, since this involves the issue of halal products.

"So we cannot compromise on this."

In January alone, the total supply of meat entering the country was 11,000 tons and the total seized was 73 tonnes.

Last month, they also seized 61 tonnes of imported meat.

"We are going hard on this, that is why we launched our monthly raids.

"Our main focus is to reinstil Malaysians' confidence that what they are consuming is safe and halal, so they can eat with peace of mind," Saiful said.

He also assured the public that his senior officials were not corrupt.

This is despite the ongoing allegations following the smuggling of uncertified meat.

He said anyone could lodge a report with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) if there was information proving otherwise.

"They can go straight to them (MACC). I will not cover for my officers.

"I trust the integrity of my officers.

"If they are indeed involved in corrupt practices, it would have been impossible for us to succeed in our raids and seizures."