

**Pakatan has got the facts about NFC wrong, says KJ**  
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Ticked off by what he deemed as an “unreasonable” opposition tirade against the controversial National Feedlot Corporation (NFC), a BN parliamentarian launched his own in the Dewan today, criticising the Pakatan assault on the beleaguered feedlot operator as “sensationalising” the issue and blowing it out of proportion.

“The issue has been sensationalised. And now they are claiming that the loan is going to be written off,” lamented Rembau MP Khairy Jamaluddin during his turn at debating the 2012 Supply Bill in the House today.

In his debate speech and subsequent tweets afterwards, Khairy (left) argued that PKR’s criticism of NFC missed the mark completely.

He argued that the opposition made factual mistakes in their lambasting of NFC, lining up several matters he claimed were erroneous.

First up for bat, said Khairy, the opposition claims of 5,000 acres given to the feedlot operator is false as only 1,500 acres are rented to NFC by the Negri Sembilan state government for their farm in Gemas.

Secondly is the claim that beef from NFC cattle were sold to Meatworks, Senor Santos and Brawn restaurants in Singapore.

Khairy argued that such claims are false, as peninsula Malaysia is prohibited from exporting beef to Singapore because of foot and mouth disease fears.

He also defended NFC’s seemingly sluggish performance as per its original Ninth Malaysia Plan target of supplying 60,000 heads of cattle annually.

Khairy said that NFC operations started late in 2008 halfway through the Ninth Malaysia Plan, and delays due to infrastructure development led to the target being revised to 8,000 heads of cattle a year that it met last year.

But the biggest hole in the opposition conspiracy theory, he said, is the claim that the RM250 million soft loan has been disbursed in its entirety when in fact, as the Rembau claimed, it “has not all been disbursed” and every sen needs to be approved by an authorised technical commission.

‘Gestation period still under way’

He also hit out at PKR’s claim that the soft loan to NFC will be written off because the project is loss making, arguing that NFC has only been operational for three years and its gestation period is still under way.

He posits that the infrastructure development which was delayed, once completed, will increase the number of cows before ramping up to 60,000 heads of cattle per year production.

“So I would conclude that PKR’s premier case study on THE Auditor-General’s Report has been shredded by simple (erroneous) facts,” concluded the Umno Youth leader.

The Rembau MP’s arguments came amidst the fusillade of shellings between the BN and Pakatan lines over allegations of conflict of interest and misuse of funds over a national food production project and an attendant RM250 million awarded to NFC, a company owned and operated by the husband and children of a federal minister.

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