

Effendi: I've done my best

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KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Effendi Norwawi said yesterday he had done everything possible to comply with the divorce settlement between him and his former wife.

He noted that 19 of the 26 assets — estimated to be worth RM42 million — had been transferred or was in the process of being transferred to Zariah Hashim @ Farida Effendi.

“There are some technical difficulties on the remaining seven assets due to encumbrances but we are finding ways to resolve this,” the Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department said in a statement.

The statement was issued to reporters outside the Syariah court.

In July, Farida, 55, filed a notice to compel Effendi, 58, to show cause why he should not be committed to prison for not complying with the court order by failing to transfer properties and shares list-

ed in the divorce settlement agreement signed by both parties on Jan 28 last year.

On Sept 14, High Court judge Mohd Syakir Abdul Hamid ordered him to answer the show-cause action within 14 days.

Effendi said he submitted an affidavit to reply to a contempt of court application by his ex-wife.

The affidavit will also show that he tried to provide support to his former wife beyond the terms of the agreement. He said he had conducted himself honourably and diligently throughout this case.

“Never have I done anything to frustrate the process ... I hope that my affidavit will show the court the real events that took place since the signing of the agreement.”

Effendi hoped with the detailed explanation and evidence, he would not be cited for contempt. “I hope this matter can be settled out of court,” he said.