

NAJIB GETS EXTENSION TO FILE APPEAL

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Court of Appeal allows former PM 30 days to file his petition of appeal against High Court's sentence



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THE Court of Appeal yesterday allowed Datuk Seri Najib Razak's application for a 30-day extension to file his petition of appeal over his 12 years' jail and RM210 million fine conviction in the corruption case involving RM42 million belonging to SRC International Sdn Bhd.

The three-men bench led by judge Datuk Has Zanah Mehat made the decision yesterday after the prosecution did not object to the application filed by Najib last Tuesday.

Najib's counsel Muhammad Farhan Muhammad Shafee said

the court should allow the motion in the interest of substantial justice.

He said the defence needed more time to go through the lengthy documents relating to the appeal.

"We are asking for an extension because we have to go through a 112-volume of record of appeal while the grounds of judgment by the High Court are 801 pages.

"Thus, we need more time to prepare the petition," he said.

Najib in his supporting affidavit, said it was impossible for his counsels to prepare a complete petition to cover all important issues which were dealt with by High Court judge Mohd Nazlan Mohd Ghazali.

According to court procedure,

the defence has 10 days to file the petition of appeal after receiving the records of appeal.

The due date to file the petition of appeal is on Monday.

Najib is appealing against his conviction of a 12-year jail sentence and RM210 million fine imposed by the High Court on July 28 this year after he was found guilty on seven charges of criminal breach of trust, money laundering and abuse of position involving RM42 million of SRC International Sdn Bhd funds.

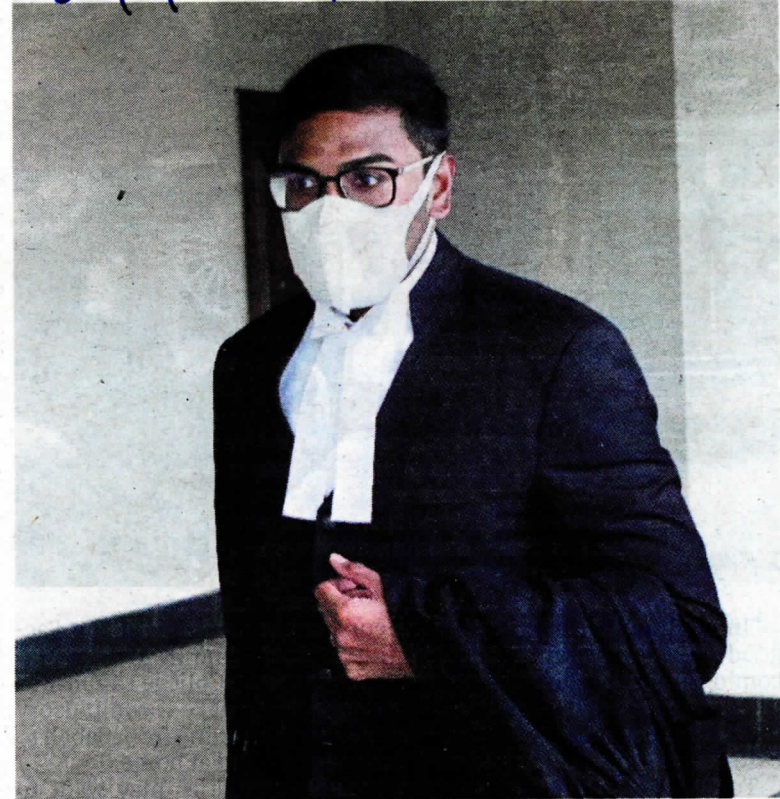
The 67-year-old former prime minister was sentenced to 12 years' jail for the offence related to abuse of power, 10 years' jail each for three criminal breach of trust offences.

Najib was also sentenced to 10 years' jail for each of the three counts of money laundering.

The High Court ordered that all sentences run concurrently.

Najib is currently out on a RM2 million bail in two sureties pending appeal in the Court of Appeal.

The prosecution, meanwhile, has also filed an appeal against the sentence imposed on Najib by the High Court.



Counsel Muhammad Farhan Muhammad Shafee, whose defence team represents Datuk Seri Najib Razak in the corruption case involving RM42 million belonging to SRC International Sdn Bhd, told the Court of Appeal that they required more time to go through lengthy documents. FILE PIC