

JULY 11 HEARING FOR EX-PM'S APPLICATION

Muhyiddin is seeking an acquittal and discharge of 4 counts of abuse of power against him

FARAH SOLHI
KUALA LUMPUR
farah.solhi@nst.com.my

THE High Court has fixed July 11 to hear former prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin's application to strike out four counts of abuse of power against him.

High Court judge Datuk Muhammad Jamil Hussin fixed the date at the end of case management yesterday, attended by Muhyiddin's lawyer Hisyam Teh Pok Teik and deputy public prosecutors Datuk Wan Shahrudin Wan Ladin and Ahmad Akram Gharib.

Earlier, Hisyam had requested that the court set aside three days

to hear the application because there were many points of law that needed to be submitted.

However, the judge said there were two novel issues related to the application that needed to be submitted and considered, whether the charges were defective and whether there were no offences or particulars.

He also ordered both parties to submit their written submissions two weeks before the fixed date.

Muhyiddin, 76, had filed an application at the High Court on April 19 seeking an acquittal and discharge of the four counts of abuse of power against him in relation to the Jana Wibawa scandal.

He also filed an application seeking a stay of proceedings at the Sessions Court until his application is heard before the High Court.

Muhyiddin, or his registered name Mahiaddin Md Yasin, is the second prime minister to be charged in court for corruption in the country's history.

He was charged with two counts of receiving RM195 mil-

lion in funds, which are allegedly proceeds from unlawful activities, between Feb 25 and July 16, 2021, and between Feb 8 and July 8 last year.

He was also charged with four counts of using his position as prime minister and Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (Bersatu) president to ask for a RM200 million bribe from Bukhary Equity Sdn Bhd at the Prime Minister's Department in Putrajaya, between Feb 8 and 25, 2021.

The four charges were framed under Section 23(1) of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2009, which carries a maximum of 20 years of jail or a fine of five times the value of the money solicited, or RM10,000, whichever is higher.

He was released on a RM2 million bail.

Others who have been charged for corruption related to the Jana Wibawa programme are former Bersatu information chief Datuk Wan Saiful Wan Jan and businessman and Bersatu Segambut division deputy chief Adam Radian Adam Muhammad.