

# EX-PM FACES RAP FOR GRAFT, MONEY LAUNDERING

Muhyiddin charged with 6 counts of corruption, power abuse involving RM427.5 million

## KUALA LUMPUR

**F**ORMER prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin was yesterday charged with six counts of corruption and money laundering involving RM427.5 million.

Muhyiddin, whose registered name is Mahiaddin Md Yasin, 76, is the second former prime minister in the country to be charged in court with corruption.

In 2018, Datuk Seri Najib Razak was charged with corruption and misappropriation of 1Malaysia

Development Bhd (1MDB) funds. He was found guilty of misappropriating RM42 million of SRC International funds and was sentenced to 12 years' jail.

Muhyiddin, who is co-founder and president of Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia, pleaded not guilty and claimed trial to all six counts after the charges were read to him before Sessions Court judge Suzana Husin.

Muhyiddin was charged with

two counts of receiving RM195 million in proceeds from unlawful activities between Feb 25 and July 16, 2021 and Feb 8 and July 8 last year.

The funds were credited into the party's CIMB bank account. He was accused of committing the offence at CIMB Bank's KL Tower branch in Jalan Stesen Sentral.

Both charges were framed under Section 4(1)(b) of the Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act 2001. The offence carries up to 15 years' jail and a fine of at least five times the sum obtained from money laundering or RM5 million, whichever is higher, upon conviction.

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

He was also accused of committing the same offence at the same location by asking for a bribe of RM32.5 million for the party from Nepturis Sdn Bhd, Mamfor Sdn Bhd and Azman Yusoff between March 1 and August 2020.

The four charges were framed under Section 23(1) of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) Act 2009, which provides for up to 20 years' jail or a

fine of five times the value of the money solicited or RM10,000, whichever is higher, upon conviction.

The prosecution team was led by Solicitor-General Datuk Ahmad Terrirudin Mohd Salleh. The team had nine deputy public prosecutors.

Muhyiddin was represented by senior lawyer Datuk K. Kumaraendran, Datuk Rosli Dahlan and six other lawyers.

Terrirudin suggested that bail be set at RM2 million with two local sureties for all six charges and for Muhyiddin to surrender his passport to court.

The court set bail at RM2 million bail with two local sureties and ordered Muhyiddin to surrender his passport to the court.

The judge fixed May 26 for mention.

In 2020, Muhyiddin became prime minister after the collapse of the Pakatan Harapan (PH) government. As the country faced the Covid-19 pandemic, the government announced several initiatives to help the people, including the Jana Wibawa programme for Bumiputera contractors.

Former Bersatu information chief Datuk Wan Saiful Wan Jan and Segambut Bersatu division deputy chief and businessman Adam Radian Adam Muhammad were also charged with corruption in relation to the case.