



Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin arriving at the Shah Alam Sessions court yesterday with his wife, Puan Sri Noorainee Abdul Rahman. PIC BY HAIRUL ANUAR RAHIM

NOT GUILTY PLEA

MUHYIDDIN SLAPPED WITH SEVENTH CHARGE

Ex-PM accused of laundering RM5 million that was credited into Bersatu's account

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FORMER prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin was yesterday hit with another criminal charge, this time for money laundering amounting to RM5 million at the Sessions Court here.

This brings to seven the number of counts Muhyiddin has been charged with since Friday.

The Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia president and Perikatan Nasional chairman, whose real name is Mahiaddin Md Yasin, 76, is the second former prime minister to be charged in court for corruption in the country.

Muhyiddin pleaded not guilty and claimed trial to the charge yesterday after it was read out to him before judge Rozilah Salleh.

He was charged with one count of receiving RM5 million from Bukhary Equity Sdn Bhd in proceeds from unlawful activities on

Jan 7 last year.

The funds were credited into Bersatu's AmBank account. He was accused of committing the offence at AmBank's Amcorp Mall branch in Jalan Persiaran Barat, Petaling Jaya, Selangor.

The charge was framed under Section 4(l)(b) of the Anti-Money Laundering, 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.

The prosecution team led by deputy public prosecutor Ahmad Akram Gharib comprised Mohd Fadhly Mohd Zambry, Zander Lim Wai Keong, Kalai Vani Annadorai and Maziah Mohaide.

Muhyiddin was represented by senior lawyer Datuk K. Kumaraendran, Chetan Jethwani and seven others.

Akram suggested for bail to be tied to Muhyiddin's other charges that were presided over at a Kuala Lumpur court as the prosecution team would be submitting an application to move the case to that court to be tried together.

The court agreed to the suggestion and fixed May 26 for mention.

This means Muhyiddin's bail for all seven charges remain at RM2 million with two local sureties. He

also has to surrender his passport to the court.

In 2020, Muhyiddin was appointed prime minister after the collapse of the Pakatan Harapan government led by Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the government announced several initiatives to help the people, including the Jana Wibawa programme for Bumiputera contractors.

On Friday, Muhyiddin was hit with six counts of corruption and money laundering involving RM427.5 million in connection with Jana Wibawa.

Former Bersatu information chief Datuk Wan Saiful Wan Jan and businessman Adam Radian Adam Muhammad, who is also Segambut Bersatu deputy chief, have also been charged with corruption in connection with Jana Wibawa.

Earlier, there was strict security around the courts complex as Muhyiddin's supporters started arriving at 8am.

About 50 supporters turned up, much fewer than on Friday.

Muhyiddin arrived in a heavily-tinted car at 8.20am. About 15 minutes later, Bersatu leaders, including deputy president Datuk Seri Ahmad Faizal Azumu and Youth chief Wan Ahmad Fayhsal Wan Ahmad Kamal, began arriving. Additional reporting by Amlina Kamal