

# MUHYIDDIN TO KNOW OUTCOME ON AUG 20

Court to decide on  
ex-PM's bid to  
restore discharge  
and acquittal in  
Jana Wibawa case

RAHMAT KHAIRULRIJAL  
KUALA LUMPUR  
news@nst.com.my

**T**AN Sri Muhyiddin Yassin will know on Aug 20 if he can walk free or needs to answer his four abuse of

power charges relating to the  
Jana Wibawa programme.

This is after a five-member Court of Appeal panel fixed the date to decide on the former prime minister's last legal bid to restore his discharge and acquittal (DAA) on the charges.

The court, led by Datuk Azizah Nawawi, said it needed more time to deliver its verdict as the case involved serious issues.

Other members of the bench were Datuk Che Mohd Ruzima Ghazali, Datuk Ahmad Zaidi Ibrahim, Datuk Azman Abdullah and Datuk Azhahari Kamal Ramli. The 76-year-old Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (Bersatu) president is appealing the decision made by appellate court judges Datuk Hadhariah Syed Ismail, Datuk Azmi Ariffin and Datuk S.M. Komathy Suppiah.

The judges, on Feb 28, allowed the prosecution to reinstate four abuse of power charges and ordered the case to be remitted to the Sessions Court here.

The prosecution's appeal came after a High Court judge on Aug 15 last year acquitted and released Muhyiddin of the charges, ruling that they were all defective and in bad faith.

In yesterday's proceedings, Muhyiddin's lead counsel Datuk Hisyam Teh Poh Teik argued that the earlier order by the Court of Appeal was defective in law, as the judges lacked jurisdiction to hear the appeal submitted by the prosecution.

He said there were no other legal avenues nor recourses available to his client but to seek the aid of the court to rectify the injustice that arose from the impugned decision.

"The failure of justice resulting from the impugned decision is so grave and apparent on the face of the records that it warrants the review intervention of this court," he said.

Hisyam said the Court of Appeal had the jurisdiction to reopen an appeal, which it had already determined in order to avoid real injustice in exceptional circumstances.

Deputy public prosecutor Datuk Wan Shahrudin Wan Ladin said the previous Court of Appeal panel had the authority to hear and decide on appeals, including the prosecutor's appeal, under Rule 105 of the Court of Appeal Rules 1994 concerning the applicant's acquittal.

"This judicial review application constitutes an abuse of court process. Therefore, I request the court to dismiss the applicant's judicial review application and remit this case to the Sessions Court for trial."

On March 10 last year, Muhyiddin was charged with using his position to obtain bribes amounting to RM232.5 million from three companies — Bukhary Equity Sdn Bhd, Nepeturis Sdn Bhd and Mamfor Sdn Bhd — and one Datuk Azman Yusoff for the



Tan Sri  
Muhyiddin Yassin

party.

He allegedly committed the offences at the Prime Minister's Office, Bangunan Perdana Putra, Federal Government Administration Centre in Putrajaya between March 1, 2020 and Aug 20, 2021.

On April 18, Muhyiddin, who is also Perikatan Nasional chairman, filed an application to quash the four charges under Section 23 (1) of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Act.