

**Judgement In Khir Toyo Case Will Encourage Public To Work Closer With MACC -  
Ramon  
Bernama  
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SHAH ALAM, Dec 23 (Bernama) -- The judgement handed down on former Selangor Menteri Besar Dr Mohamad Khir Toyo today will encourage the public to cooperate more closely with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Agency (MACC), said Asli Centre of Public Policy Studies chairman, Tan Sri Ramon Navaratnam.

Ramon said it would encourage the public to provide valuable information to the MACC within the context of the Whistleblower Protection Act.

He told this to Bernama when contacted for his comments on the judgement.

He added that the judgement would also help improve Malaysia's standing in the corruption perception index.

Dr Mohamad Khir, 46, was sentenced to 12 months in prison after he was found guilty by the High Court here today on a charge of obtaining for himself and his wife valuable properties at a consideration he knew was insufficient, four years ago.

Judge Datuk Wira Mohtarudin Baki (now Appeal Court Judge), who handed down the sentence, further ordered the confiscation of the said properties to be handed back to the government under Section 36(1) of the Anti-Corruption Act 1997.

Dr Mohamad Khir had been ordered by the court to enter his defence to a charge of obtaining for himself and his wife Zahrah Kechik, 46, two lots of land and a bungalow at No 8&10, Jalan Suasas 7/1L through Ditamas Sdn Bhd director Shamsuddin Hayroni.

The properties were bought at RM3.5 million, in contrast to the price of RM6.5 million paid for it by Ditamas on Dec 23 2004.

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