

**Cops re-arrest man linked to NFC probe**  
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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 26 — The man who was arrested by the police after he allegedly tried to bribe investigating officers with RM1.7 million over the National Feedlot Corporation (NFC) scandal has been rearrested.

The 45-year-old businessman, who has been detained since Wednesday, was released after his second remand order ended on Sunday.

The National Feedlot Centre in Gemas, Negri Sembilan. — file pic  
He was immediately re-arrested by the police over a different case yesterday.

Amid speculation that the man is a relative of Datuk Seri Dr Mohamad Salleh Ismail, a statement from the NFC executive chairman on Saturday claimed that the businessman was neither related to him nor was he ever an employee of the corporation.

The police said last week that the man was detained after he had allegedly attempted to bribe three or four senior police officers involved in the commercial crimes probe.

The suspect was previously wanted for questioning in relation to a cheating case reported three weeks ago in Cheras as well as another case in Bercham, Ipoh last year.

The MACC also said last week it was investigating allegations surrounding the NFC, despite previously saying it would not probe the matter.

The national anti-graft body had earlier referred the case to the police, who are now conducting an investigation into possible criminal breach of trust.

But the MACC revealed that a special team headed by MACC investigations director Datuk Haji Mustafar Ali had been formed to probe claims NFC funds were misappropriated.

Last Friday, anti-graft officers raided the NFC headquarters in connection with the alleged abuse of federal funds by its management.

Following a series of exposés on the scandal-hit NFC project, PKR renewed demands last week for the country's graft-busters to investigate the scheme for alleged abuse.

The party's representatives had lodged another report at the MACC office in Shah Alam, and submitted details of what they claimed to be evidence of wrongdoing.

PKR first latched onto the issue after the RM250 million federally funded cattle project made it into the pages of the Auditor-General's report for 2010, which described the NFC as "a mess".

Since then, the party has made several revelations related to the scandal, including the NFC's purchase of twin multi-million luxury condominium units in Bangsar, the alleged use of project funds to finance Shahrizat's as well as her family's personal expenses and trips abroad.

It also alleged there was a transfer of resources to unrelated companies in Singapore, as well as the purchase a Mercedes-Benz CLS350 for RM534,622 and two plots of land in Putrajaya's Precinct 10 for RM3,363,507.

The latest disclosure by PKR, made last Tuesday, alleged that some RM10 million was diverted towards the purchase of luxury condominium unit in Singapore for Shahrizat's family.

Shahrizat has sought to deflect attention by stating she was "only the wife" of the national cattle farming project's chairman and had nothing to do with the NFC.

The Wanita Umno chief has faced calls to quit as minister from within her own party, including from influential former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, after repeated attacks from the opposition over the project awarded to her husband and three children, who are directors in the NFC.

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