

NFC Management To Be Called To Explain To PAC In January
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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 23 (Bernama) -- The National Feedlot Corporation (NFC) management will be called to explain the controversy involving the company to the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) in January, said PAC chairman Datuk Seri Azmi Khalid.

He said the decision was made following the PAC's meeting with officials from the Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry Ministry during the first internal hearing on the NFC at Parliament building, here, Wednesday.

"The meeting did not specifically discuss the NFC. But we decided to call them (NFC management) to meet us next January," he told reporters after chairing the hearing.

The officials from the ministry, led by its secretary-general Datuk Che Mohd Hisham Abdullah, attended the hearing. Also present was the ministry's former secretary-general Datuk Mohd Mokhtar Ismail.

Azmi said at the two-hour hearing, the officers informed that the money was taken out and placed in a special account from 2008 to 2009, whereby the ministry's approval was required for the funds to be channelled into the NFC management's account.

However, the agreement between the ministry and NFC was only signed in 2010.

"The PAC questioned the officers how the money could be taken out before the agreement was signed but no specific answers but various excuses were given...they said it was in accordance with the system," said Azmi.

The controversy involving NFC, which is involved in the RM250 million beef production project in Gemas, came to the surface following the release of the Attorney-General's Report 2010 recently.

Azmi said the PAC also decided to call the Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Sidek Hassan and representatives of the Finance Ministry to explain the matter from the aspect of government's management and monitoring.

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