

PKR says ready to reveal NFC whistleblower's identity
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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 4 — PKR is ready to reveal the identity of the whistleblower who first alerted the party to the National Feedlot Centre's (NFC) alleged abuse of federal funds if authorities can vouch for his wellbeing.

"We are prepared to disclose the identity of the whistleblower provided the government guarantees his safety," PKR strategic director Rafizi Ramli said today.

He told reporters this outside the CCID headquarters here before submitting to the police documents he said would help their investigation into the NFC.

These include the NFC's cashbook, given to PKR by the anonymous whistleblower, which details every transaction made by the scandal-hit company via its primary account.

Rafizi pointed out PKR had only carried out its own investigation into five or six big transactions listed in the cash book, and expressed hope that the police will be able to uncover more proof of alleged financial abuse with the document.

"Out of the RM85 million (spent by NFC in 2009), we only picked the major transactions... so I'm sure if they start looking into this, they'll find more evidence of misappropriation," he said.

The police are probing the NFC for possible criminal breach of trust following PKR's allegations that millions in federal funds meant for the cattle-raising scheme had been misappropriated.

The opposition party first latched onto the issue after the NFC, run by Datuk Dr Mohamad Salleh Ismail, made it into this year's Auditor-General's Report for failing to meet production targets.

The NFC entered the spotlight when it made it into this year's Auditor-General's Report for failing to meet production targets. — file pic
Mohamad Salleh, a former food science head at Universiti Pertanian Malaysia, is husband to federal minister and Wanita Umno chief Datuk Seri Shahrizat Jalil.

PKR has since made several revelations relating to the scandal, including NFC's purchase of two luxury condominium units in Bangsar and the alleged use of project funds to pay for Shahrizat and her family's personal expenses.

It also claimed there was a transfer of resources to unrelated companies in Singapore, as well as the purchase of 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 a fortnight ago, further alleged that some RM10 million had been diverted towards the purchase of a luxury condominium unit in Singapore for

Shahrizat's family.

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

The senator has faced calls to quit as minister from within Umno, including from influential former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Last Friday, businessman Datuk Shamsubahrin Ismail was charged at the Sessions Court here for allegedly cheating Mohamad Salleh out of RM1.76 million in consultation fees by offering him fraudulent advisory services.

Federal CCID chief Datuk Syed Ismail Syed Azizan told The Malaysian Insider yesterday that the police probe into the NFC was "80 per cent done".

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