

**Shahrizat defends right to sue PKR duo**  
**The Malaysian Insider**  
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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 20 — Women, Family and Community Development Minister Datuk Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil today defended her RM100 million suit for defamation against two PKR leaders, claiming that she was just exercising her right.

On Thursday, she sued PKR strategic director Rafizi Ramli for claiming she misused a RM250 million federal loan meant for the National Feedlot Centre (NFC).

She also named Ampang MP Zuraida Kamaruddin, PKR's women's wing leader, in the suit.

According to the Star Online, Shahrizat (picture) said the "culture of impunity in making defamatory statements was on overdrive".

"It is getting too much and out of control, as if there were no law to regulate the situation in the country.

"They feel that they are the only ones who have the right. I, too, have the right, which is why I am determined to take the matter to court," she was quoted as saying.

Shahrizat's suit comes after months of allegations by PKR that she had abused millions in federal funds earmarked for the NFC to pay for personal expenses incurred by her and her family.

The cattle-raising scheme is headed by Shahrizat's husband Datuk Mohamad Salleh Ismail and their children.

The publicly-funded project, which hit national headlines following the Auditor-General's Report last year, has continued to hog the limelight after it was linked to Shahrizat's family.

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

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