

Court fixes April 4 for NFCorp cheating case
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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 31 — The Sessions Court has fixed April 4 to hear the charge against Datuk Shamsubahrin Ismail in the on-going National Feedlot Corporation (NFCorp) scandal.

The 45-year old businessman was charged last month with cheating NFCorp chairman Datuk Seri Mohamad Salleh Ismail of RM1.76 million in fraudulent consultancy fees.

Shamsulbahrin (picture), who is currently under remand in Sungai Buloh, was slapped with two further charges of cheating last week.

Judge Rozilah Salleh fixed April 4 to 6, May 14 to 18, and May 21 to 25 as dates for the hearing.

The prosecution, represented by deputy public prosecutor Datuk Abdul Razak Musa, said today that up to 15 individuals will be brought to court as witnesses.

Shamsubahrin was represented by lawyers Zarina Mohd and Rafiq Rahim.

The businessman, in his police report, had maintained that these “charges and investigations against me are baseless.”

Mohamed Salleh had earlier said Shamsubahrin was neither a relative nor has he ever been an NFC employee.

NFCorp’s assets were frozen after investigations were launched by police and the MACC following a series of exposes by PKR against the company owned by senior minister Datuk Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil’s family.

PKR has accused NFCorp of spending at least RM27 million in public funds on land, property and expenses unrelated to cattle farming.

Shahrizat returns to ministerial duties on February 6 after taking three weeks’ leave to allow the authorities to complete their probes.

PKR yesterday alleged that a NFCorp official had asked Shamsubahrin to bribe police in an attempt to close investigations into allegations of abuse of public funds.

Party vice-president N. Surendran, who said he is now Shamsubahrin’s lawyer, distributed a police report made by his client on January 27 to reporters which states that he was “made a scapegoat in the NFC scandal.”

Shamsubahrin had said in the report that he received “calls and SMSes pressuring me to bribe police to close the NFC case.”

He also accused the NFCorp official of “cheating me by appointing me as corporate advisor and consultant” in November 2011 which he said was a false appointment.

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