

**Mat Sabu: Muhyiddin must also quit over NFC**  
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**By Yow Hong Chieh**

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 12 — Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin must step down along with Datuk Seri Shahrizat Jalil over his role in the National Feedlot Centre (NFC), Mohamad Sabu said today.

This was because Muhyiddin had been responsible for monitoring the publicly-funded cattle-raising scheme as agriculture and agro-based industry minister when the project began, the PAS number two explained.

“Shahrizat as a minister and spouse of NFC’s executive chairman... is also responsible, but more so Muhyiddin as (the former agriculture) minister.

“Therefore, not only does Shahrizat have to resign but Muhyiddin as well,” Mohamad told the PAS party organ Harakah Daily today.

His call was seconded by PAS vice president Datuk Dr Mahfuz Omar, who said any investigation into the alleged abuse of public funds meant for the controversial project must be extended to the Agriculture Ministry.

It was unwise to focus only on Women, Family and Community Minister Shahrizat as the NFC had been awarded to her husband on orders from the ministry and the High-Impact Project Committee, Mahfuz said.

“Did the committee itself make the decision without Cabinet approval?” he asked.

“Muhyiddin as the former (agriculture) minister also bears responsibility. We want to know what discussions took place [that prompted the] Cabinet to approve this project.”

Mahfuz added that the public did not want to see a repeat of the Port Klang Free Zone (PKFZ) scandal, which only came to light when then-transport minister Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik stepped down.

Shahrizat has denied any wrongdoing in the national cattle scheme, which has been hit by claims of financial impropriety ever since this year’s Auditor-General’s Report highlighted it as “a mess”.

The former Lembah Pantai MP last week gained the backing of both Umno Youth and Wanita wings during the party’s general assembly, but has faced calls to step down from within the party itself.

Most recently, former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad told Shahrizat to know when to go and not wait to be “chased out” by her own colleagues.

PKR has savaged Shahrizat and her family, who own and run the NFC, for allegedly misusing RM84 million in federal loans, including the RM13.8 million purchase of two luxury

condominium units in Bangsar.

The opposition party also alleged millions were spent on a Mercedes-Benz luxury limousine, land in Putrajaya, cash disbursements to companies belonging to Shahrizat's family and to pay for overseas tours.

The police are currently investigating the NFC for possible criminal breach of trust.

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