

The Edge : Court Sets Friday To Decide On A Stay The Minister's Order
Bernama
Aug 12, 2015

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 12 (Bernama) -- The High Court here set Friday to decide whether it would grant to The Edge Communications Sdn Bhd a stay of the suspension order of two publications for three months, by the Home Minister.

Judge Datuk Asmabi Mohamad set the date in chambers today after hearing submission by lawyer Darryl Goon for The Edge Communications Sdn Bhd and Senior Federal Counsel Alice Loke who represented the Home Ministry.

The Edge Communications Sdn Bhd has applied for a stay of the suspension order pending the disposal of the substantive judicial review to quash the suspension order, for three months from July 27.

Loke told the press that in the submission, she told the judge that the applicant had not advanced any cogent or compelling reasons for a stay to be granted until the disposal of the judicial review proceedings.

She also said a stay would suspend the effect of the minister's decision of a temporary suspension against The Edge Malaysia and The Edge Financial Daily.

On Aug 5, The Edge Communications Sdn Bhd secured leave to apply for a judicial review over the suspension of two of its publications by the Home Ministry.

However, Judge Asmabi dismissed an application by the company to lift the suspension of the two publications pending the inter-parte hearing of the application.

The company had filed an application for leave for a judicial review on July 27 by naming the Home Ministry's secretary-general and the Home Minister as the respondents.

The Edge Communications Sdn Bhd had applied for leave to institute proceedings under Order 53 Rule 3 of the Rules of Court 2012 for an order of certiorari for the court to quash the decision of the home minister.

The company has also sought an interim order for a stay of the execution of the decision pending the outcome of the hearing of the application and costs.

The Home Minister, in a letter dated July 23 signed by one Hashimah Nik Jaafar on behalf of the minister, notified the company of the suspension of the publishing permits of both publications.

According to a letter sent to the senior managing editor of the company, Ahmad Azam Mohd Aris, the ministry said the articles on 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) by The Edge were detrimental to public order, security and national interest.

It also said that failure to comply with the suspension order would result in the revocation of the publishing permits of the publications.

The court set Sept 7 to hear the judicial review application.

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