

Graft: Three cops among five charged in Tawau

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TAWAU: Two police inspectors and a sergeant major were among five civil servants who were charged in the Corruption Special Court here on Thursday. All pleaded not guilty before Judge Abu Bakar Manat.

SM Abdul Halil Mohd Zin, 59, was charged with three counts of alleged bribery totalling RM2,800; Inspector Zakariah Kirinu, 37, (alleged bribery of RM3,000) and Insp. Roney Saimey Sakah, 39, with alleged RM3,500 bribery.

Abdul Halil who was attached to the Travel Control Office (TCO) in Barter-Trade Port is said to have received RM800 from one Helmi Abdul Hamid, 37, as an inducement to release a wooden vessel (kumpit) that was carrying petrol to the Philippines in November 2014.

For the second count, he allegedly received RM1,000 from the same person for similar reason in February 2015 at the TCO office.

*For the third count, he allegedly received RM1,000 from one Muhd Azmin Abdul Aziz, 49, as an inducement to release a kumpit carrying petrol to the Philippines. The transaction took place at Hotel Emas Coffee House on March 3, 2015.

Meanwhile, Zakariah have received RM3, 000 from one Mohd Akhbar Azis, 26, for helping him open a bail for firearm case and to drop a Samurai sword case faced by his father, Azis Awang, 51, of which he (Zakariah) was Prosecuting Officer for the case.

He allegedly committed the offence inside a Perodua Viva parked at adjacent to Tawau Court about 3pm on April 19, 2016.

As for Roney who was attached to the Traffic Unit in IPD Lahad Datu, he allegedly received RM3,500 from one Rostam Arsad, 33, as an inducement to solve an accident case which was investigated under Section 41 of the Road Transportation Act 1987 and the case was not brought (charged) in court. He allegedly committed the offence at IPD Lahad Datu Traffic Office about 11am on April 7, 2017.

Two other civil servants, Aisah Batik, 39, of Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs (KPDNHEP) and Ajid Ardinah, 43, of National Registration Department (NRD) in Lahad Datu branch were charged for allegedly receiving RM500 and submitting fake documents, respectively.

Ajid used a Borang Daftar Kelahiran (Borang A) under the name of Adrianna Alanni Ajid (Serial No. SB 856750) which was fake. He committed the offence at Lahad Datu NRD office on April 20, 2015.

Hence, Aisah who is KPDNHEP Enforcement Assistant Officer agreed to receive RM500 bribe from one Hardeyansah Bahtiar, 30, as an inducement to release a wooden boat and Yamaha outbound engine confiscated by the Ministry for offence under Section 21 of Control of Supply Act 1961 for smuggling 10 gas cylinders.

She allegedly committed the offence at Marine Police Base Jetty here about 4pm on August 15, 2017.

All four accused except Ajid, were charged under Section 17 (a) of the Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission (MACC) 2009 and punishable under Section 24 (1) of the same act, which carries up to 20 years imprisonment and fine of five times from the bribe's value, if convicted.

Ajid was charged under Section 471 of the Penal Code and punishable under Section 465 of the same Act, carried with up to two years imprisonment or fine or both, upon conviction.

Abu Bakar fixed April 16 for case mention for all accused, except Ajid who will have his case re-mention the next day (April 17).

The court also allowed Abdul Halil RM10, 000 bail with RM7,000 deposited, Zakariah, Roney and Aisah (RM10,000 with RM6,000 deposited, respectively) and Ajid was offered bail RM7,000 with RM3,000 deposited and also ordered to submit his passport to the court.

MACC Prosecuting Officer Mohd Faliq Basirun appeared for the prosecution, while SM Abdul Halil and Insp. Zakariah were represented by Counsel Dayang Aida Ku Amira Aminudin, Insp. Roney (Counsel Mohd Fadzil Abdul Karim). Ajid and Aisah were not represented.