

Hyde Park Corner

Dispute at work cause of judge assault

BUTTERWORTH: A dispute over work matters involving two Sessions court judges is said to have caused the husband of one of them to punch her colleague at the court complex.

North Seberang Prai OCPD Asst Comm Zulkifli Alias said the drama also involved an interpreter who worked for the woman judge.

We have forwarded the investigation papers to the Attorney-General's Chambers after obtaining the greenlight from the DPP's office," he said yesterday.

It is learnt that the injured 52-year-old judge was still on medical leave and would report back to work on Monday.

According to sources, Federal Court Judge Justice Datuk Seri James Foong visited the judge at his home here yesterday.

Apparently, the woman judge, who is in her 30s, has been transferred to the Kuala Lumpur High Court as a research officer.

The interpreter has been transferred to the Penang High Court. In the April 22 incident, the judge was clocking out at 5.10pm when he was punched by the man.

The judge, who suffered a swollen cheek, passed out and was rushed to the Seberang Jaya Hospital for outpatient treatment.

The attacker, a businessman in his late 40s, reportedly also hurled abuse at the judge before leaving the scene.

The victim lodged a report with the district police headquarters in Kepala Batas.

(By M. Sivanantha Sharma, *The Star*, 29-4-2010)

US judge who whipped daughter with belt suspended

WASHINGTON: A Texas judge who was caught by his then teenage daughter on video beating her repeatedly with a belt in a row over her computer use has been suspended from duty.

A seven-minute video of William Adams whipping Hillary Adams, now 23, at least 17 times and hurling abuse at her in 2004 has gone viral on the Internet and been viewed millions of times since she posted it online last month.

The Supreme Court of Texas said the judge had been suspended on full pay, but no findings of fact had yet been made.

(*The Star*, 24-11-2011)

MEDICAL FEES OF RM60 MILLION !!

RM60mil bill 'not expensive'

Surgeon defends Brunei royal's medical charges for seven-month treatment

THE Court of Appeal reserved judgment in the case of the prominent surgeon accused of overcharging a royal patient from Brunei.

Dr Susan Lim is trying to overturn a High Court decision that the Singapore Medical Council inquiry into the allegations should go ahead.

The surgeon, who in her 50s, is said to have charged Pengiran Anak Hajjah Damit S\$24.8mil (RM60.3mil) for seven months of treatment, although she argues that the figure was lower and included the cost of flying the patient between Singapore and Brunei.

During Thursday's hearing, her lawyer said the case was merely commercial dispute and should never have escalated into disciplinary proceedings.

Senior Counsel Lee Eng Beng pointed out that there are no fee guidelines for doctors and nothing in the ethical code that says they cannot charge more than a certain amount.

"Is it a disciplinary offence for a medical practitioner to be too expensive?" he asked.

(*The Star*, 12-11-2011)



Chief Justice for restructuring judiciary

Justice Lokur to take up the issue with the Chief Minister soon

HYDERABAD: Chief Justice of stall Andhra Pradesh High Court Madan B. Lokur on Sunday expressed his eagerness to restructure judiciary in the State with a view to speedup disposal of cases in courts and said he hoped to meet Chief Minister N. Kiran Kumar Reddy shortly to discuss the matter.

Delivering the valedictory address for a two-day workshop on 'speedy justice for victims of sex trafficking' at the Andhra Pradesh Judicial Academy, Justice Lokur said the High Court wanted to install video conferencing facility with the help of e-committee of Supreme Court in all courts by the end of the year. The objective was to enable magistrates record statements of victims of trafficking who resided outside the district.

The video conferencing was suggested by Joint Commissioner of Police (Administration) Mahesh M. Bhagwat in his speech earlier. He said the facility will enable victims overcome the stigma attached to appearing in courts and also eliminate the threat of intimidation by accused during journey.

Justice Lokur, however, said video conferencing had its own disadvantage as people were shy of facing camera.

On fake sureties being furnished in courts, the Chief Justice said the problem was owing to professionals on the job who stood surety in multiple courts.

(*The Hindu*, 23-1-2012)

Judge leaves recusal decision to higher authorities

GEORGE TOWN: A judicial commissioner has allowed the "higher authorities in Putrajaya" to decide if he should continue hearing a drug trafficking case or let another High Court judge handle it.

Judicial commissioner Mohd Amin Firdaus Abdullah then postponed the hearing to Sept 17.

"I will inform both parties (the defendant and the deputy public prosecutor) of the answer from the higher authorities, if it comes soon," he said.

On June 30, Mohd Amin had ordered Sharifurahim Abdullah, 30, to enter his defence on a charge of trafficking in 23kg of cannabis.

Sharifurahim's counsel, R.S.N. Rayer, was not satisfied with the ruling. He said Mohd Amin had passed judgment instantaneously without taking time to consider the submissions from both himself and DPP Norina Zainol Abidin.

"My client had said that he had seen the judge (Mohd Amin) making the decision without looking at the submissions," said Rayer.

(By Bernard Cheah, *The Sun Daily*, 13-7-2010)

Judge 'demanded' sexual favours

PENNSYLVANIA: An experienced judge here is charged with trying to exchange sexual favours for positive verdicts.

Ross Cioppa, 70, was released on US\$10,000 (RM31,200) bail on Thursday after being charged with two counts of bribery, two counts of indecent assault and two counts of official oppression.

The judge is said to have made inappropriate sexual advances to two women whose civil housing cases he was hearing in is courtroom.

The first incident happened in 2009, when the judge brought a woman into his official chambers before ruling on her eviction case.

Grand jury records say that he asked the woman to kiss him and massage his genitals. When she refused, he said no one would believe her if she were to tell because he was a well-known judge.

(*New Straits Times*, 16-10-2011)