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Exec faces two bribery charges

He allegedly asked for cash in RM2.7mil project

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JOHOR BARU: A 47-year-old former vice-president of Iskandar Investment Bhd (IIB) has been charged at the Sessions Court here with two bribery offences involving a construction project worth RM2.7mil.

Mohamad Hanafiah Abu Mansor, who is currently Johor Port deputy chief executive officer, pleaded not guilty to the charges of asking and receiving money as an inducement to get the construction and completion of Kg Sg Pendas – Alternative Villagers Logistic Road for Medini Development Iskandar Malaysia project.

In the first charge, he was accused of soliciting 10% worth of the proposed RM2.7mil project from one Mohd Zulkifli Arif outside a restaurant in Danga Bay in mid-June 2009.

The bribe was supposedly asked on behalf of one Mohd Amin Suhaimi as an inducement to get the said project for a construction firm, Segi Mulia Sdn Bhd from Medini Iskandar Malaysian Sdn Bhd.

In the second charge, Mohd Hanafiah is

alleged to have accepted a RM25,000 bribe from Mohd Zulkifli at a parking lot behind IIB office in Danga Bay here between 3pm and 4pm early January 2010.

He was said to have received the sum on behalf of Mohd Amin as a fee for helping the firm to obtain the said project.

Mohamad Hanafiah, who was charged with both offences under Section 16(a)(A) of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2009, now faces a jail term of up to 20 years and a fine of no less than five times the bribe amount.

Proposing for bail to be set at RM200,000, DPP Abdul Ghafar Abdul Latif said it was a high profile case.

Defence lawyer Zamri Idrus asked for a lower bail amount, saying that his client, a father of four, had never been charged at any court before this.

He also assured the court of his client's cooperation during the hearing.

Sessions Judge Mohamad Haidar Abdul Aziz then set bail at RM100,000 with two sureties and fixed Nov 28 for next mention.

Mohamad Hanafiah posted bail.