

City Hall personnel nabbed

They were allegedly bribed by illegal businesses to turn a blind eye

By **FARIK ZOLKEPLI**
farik@thestar.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR: Three civil servants, including a high-ranking City Hall official, and a former civil servant have been detained on suspicion of accepting monthly bribes from illegal businesses in the city.

The main suspect, a deputy director at Kuala Lumpur City Hall in his 40s, allegedly received monthly sums ranging from RM100,000 to RM500,000 from syndicates operating unlicensed

massage parlours, entertainment outlets and other businesses.

Sources indicate that aside from the deputy director, the other civil servant detained is his subordinate while the third is an enforcement officer.

"All three of them were detained on Friday and have been remanded for seven days until June 14.

"Another suspect, a former member of an enforcement agency, has been remanded until June 12.

"The remand orders were

granted by the magistrate following an application by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) at the Dang Wangi police headquarters," one source said.

According to the sources, the deputy director has allegedly been receiving bribes for several months, purportedly in exchange for turning a blind eye to the illegal operations.

"Following the arrest of the main suspect, the MACC arrested the three other suspects, believed to have also accepted bribes and

acted as middlemen to distribute the bribe money to several local council enforcement personnel," they said.

The authorities also seized RM200,000 in cash along with 28 gold wafers, the value and weight of which have yet to be determined.

Meanwhile, Kuala Lumpur MACC director Datuk Mohamad Fauzi Husin confirmed the arrests, stating that the case is being investigated under Sections 17(a) and 16(a)(A) of the MACC Act 2009.