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Chong is seen at the court complex after sentencing. — Photo by Mohd Faisal Ahmad

Court fines man for allowing RM450,000 illegal transactions in bank account

KUCHING: The Sessions Court here has fined a 39-year-old man a total of RM90,000 in default 24 months' jail for two counts of engaging directly in unlawful transactions involving RM450,000 through his bank account.

Judge Shafiza Datu Abdul Razak Tready imposed the sentence on Chong Nyek Chew after he changed his plea to guilty during case management on both charges framed under Section 424C(1) of the Penal Code.

The Section carries a jail term of between three and 10 years, or a fine between RM10,000 and RM150,000, or both, upon conviction.

He was fined RM10,000 in default 12 months' jail and RM80,000 in default 12 months' imprisonment for the amended first and second charges respectively.

According to the charges, Chong was directly involved in transactions using his account at a bank here without lawful purpose in two separate occasions on Nov 1 and Nov 3, 2025.

Based on the facts of the case, an executive officer from the bank's Digital Banking Department received information from the Corporate Channel Operations Department regarding several suspicious transactions involving bank funds amounting to RM160 million.

Following this, a police report was lodged, and further checks by the bank found that the unauthorised transactions had occurred earlier between Oct 28 and Nov 3, 2025.

A second police report later recorded a total of RM203.82 million transferred illegally into several local accounts.

Police investigations further found that transaction records in the bank's system did not match reports from PayNet's Real-Time Retail Payments, while digital examinations indicated that the bank's system had been compromised, enabling the unauthorised fund transfers.

Further investigations revealed Chong received RM50,000 and RM400,000 on Nov 1 and 3, 2025, respectively before withdrawing the money in cash at separate locations. Chong was arrested on Nov 25, 2025.

In his statement, Chong claimed that he had lent his bank account to a man known as 'Adrick Wong', purportedly to receive money from assigned tasks which would then be credited into his bank account.

Investigations showed that Chong had received, managed, and was directly involved in transactions involving the deposit of RM450,000 into his bank account without any legitimate purpose, with the money forming part of the proceeds of unlawful activities.

The prosecution was conducted by deputy public prosecutor Shukor Abu Bakar from the Commercial and Cyber Crime Unit, Prosecution Division, Attorney-General's Chambers, Putrajaya.

Chong was represented by counsel Tiong Ing Neng.