On Jabbar under probe over punching incident

**POLICE** have started investigating the alleged attack on a referee after a Premier League match at the Pasir Gudang Municipal Council on Saturday, following a report lodged by the victim.

The referee, Sukri Abd Rahman was officiating a match between Johor and UiTM FC which ended 2-2.

Following the final whistle, Sukri, 40, was walking towards the sideline when Johor team manager On Jabbar allegedly punched him.

Johor deputy police chief Datuk Ismail Ya­tim confirmed that a report was lodged by Sukri at the Chukai police station in Tereng­ganu, on Sunday.

“We (police) recorded the team manager’s statement and are also in the process of recording the statements of those who witnessed the incident to facilitate investigations.”

He said the case is being investigated under Section 323 of the Penal Code for voluntarily causing hurt.

It is learnt that a television station cameraman, who had the full recording of the alleged incident, was also called to have his statement recorded. Recordings of On Jabbar allegedly landing a punch on Sukri have gone viral on the Internet.

Sukri, in his police report, claimed he was assaulted, resulting in injuries to his right cheek and jaw.

Meanwhile, On Jabbar spent about 10 minutes at the Seri Alam district police headquarters yesterday, where his statement was recorded.

Outside the police station, about 100 supporters gathered, with placards and banners supporting him. On Jabbar, who has been relieved of his duties by Johor Football Association with immediate effect, said he is yet to be called up by FAM.

He was also slapped with a RM25,000 fine by Johor FA. However, On Jabbar still sits on the Johor FA executive council. By Ben Tan and Jassmine Shadiqe