

# FIRST MALAYSIAN TO PLAY IN ICELAND

Lugman loaned to Icelandic club Njardvik

K. RAJAN  
rajan@nst.com.my

**F**ORMER national players Datuk Dollah Salleh and Datuk Zainal Abidin Hassan yesterday praised Luqman Hakim Shamsudin for continuing to play in Europe.

Luqman is set to become the first Malaysian to play in Iceland. His club KV Kortrijk (Belgium) have loaned him to Icelandic club Njardvik FC for one season in their semi-pro league.

Luqman, who has already arrived in Iceland, had previously joined Kortrijk in 2020.

Although Iceland are not a major force in European football, they made heads turn after becoming the smallest nation by population to qualify for the World Cup during the 2018 Russia edition.

Dollah, who scored 33 goals from 81 appearances with the national team, said Luqman will gain valuable experience in Iceland.

"The football in Europe is of a higher standard and I believe this will only help Luqman's development as a player," said the Pahang legend.

Zainal, who scored 50 goals from 129 appearances with the national squad, echoed Dollah's sentiments.

"I have to congratulate Luqman, it's good for him to be in Europe, we know the standard is high there," said Zainal.

"It's good for players to venture out and bring back their experience to our national team.

"I hope more of our players will try to play abroad after this. We need our players to challenge themselves aboard."



National footballer Luqman Hakim Shamsudin is set to become the first Malaysian to play in Iceland after joining Njardvik FC on loan for a season. PIC FROM FACEBOOK TEAM MALAYSIA