

Hanif: Remarks not prejudicial to case

KUALA LUMPUR: Former inspector-general of police Tun Hanif Omar said yesterday his remarks about the alleged homosexuality of Datuk Seri Anwar were not prejudicial to Anwar's trial.

"I considered carefully before making my comments," said Hanif who is currently Binariang Berhad's chairman.

He was asked by reporters if his comments were subjudice following Anwar's arrest.

The former IGP, who is a lawyer, said it was his personal right to comment on the issue as it was of public interest.

He told reporters this

after attending the first Malaysia East Asia Satellite seminar.

Last week, he confirmed he had told Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in 1993 that Anwar, then the finance minister had homosexual tendencies.

Hanif had said his report was based on evidence gathered by his officers. *S3-10-98*

In response to Anwar's allegation that the police assaulted him while in custody under the Internal Security Act, he said: "Anybody can claim anything. We won't know the facts unless we investigate."