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Tajol-Anwar

ANWAR TO BE CHARGED IN COURT WITHIN THIS WEEK

BANTING, Sept 22 (Bernama) -- Former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will be charged in court within this week, said Deputy Home Minister Datuk Tajol Rosli Ghazali.

The police wanted to charge him yesterday but the situation outside the court did not permit them to do so, he said when commenting on a CNBC news item today which said Anwar has been detained under the Internal Security Act (ISA) indefinitely.

Tajol Rosli said the CNBC news item was not true and in fact the police wanted to charge him as quickly as possible to prevent more accusations of injustice to Anwar being thrown at Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohamad.

"Police made the decision not to charge him yesterday after carefully evaluating the situation outside the court building in Jalan Raja where about 10,000 people had gathered to see Anwar being brought to court," he told reporters after explaining the current political situation in the country following the sacking of Anwar from Umno and the Cabinet, to Kuala Langat Umno division members, here.

Yesterday, police fired tear gas and used water cannons to disperse the crowd in front of the Magistrate's Court when police warning to disperse went unheeded.

"Police observed the crowd outside the court from Bukit Aman before deciding not to charge him and I too was there, observing the situation," he said.

Tajol Rosli said the charges Anwar would face would not be under the ISA but under other provisions of the law.

When asked whether he will be charged under the same section 377D of the Penal Code under which his adopted brother, Sukma Darmawan Sasmitaat Madja, and Pakistani consultant Dr Munawar Ahmad Anees were charged on Saturday for allowing themselves to be sodomised by Anwar, he said he was not sure.

Tajol Rosli urged the people especially Anwar's supporters to allow the law to take its own course without any interruption.

"At every speech Anwar made after his sacking, he asked for justice so let the law take its own course," he said.

When asked where Anwar is being detained now, Tajol Rosli said at Bukit Aman.

-- BERNAMA

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