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Rahim-Anwar

ANWAR WILL DEFINITELY BE CHARGED, SAYS IGP

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 15 (Bernama) -- Police will definitely press charges against former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim for holding public assemblies without police permit, Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Noor said tonight.

He said Anwar had contravened the Police Act and police would take action according to the circumstances.

"If there is no permit he (Anwar) cannot (hold assemblies)...as a former cabinet member he should know the law," Abdul Rahim told reporters after witnessing the swimming event of the Commonwealth Games at the Aquatic Stadium, Bukit Jalil, here.

He said a directive had been issued to all state and district police chiefs to implement the policies on public rallies.

All chief police officers and OCPD's had mobilised the machinery to not only monitor but also to take specific action in accordance with the law if assemblies held without a permit did not disperse when told to do so, he said.

He said Anwar could apply for a permit to hold public assemblies but the decision whether or not to grant it lay with the OCPD's, depending on the circumstances.

Asked on whether Anwar would be arrested in connection with the allegations against him, Abdul Rahim said: "Be patient...".

He said police had called Anwar's private secretary, Mohamed Azmin Ali, to give a statement to help in investigation into the book, "50 Dalil Mengapa Anwar Tidak Boleh Jadi PM" (50 Reasons Why Anwar Cannot Be PM).

"He (Azmin) was called but he refused to come forward and we will get a court order tomorrow or the day after to get him to present himself," he said.

He said that under the law, if a person refused when asked by police to give a statement, police could get a court order to ensure his presence.

Asked on the investigation into the book, Abdul Rahim said several more arrests would be made in the next few days.

He said police would definitely arrest those involved although they were holed up in Anwar's house because his place is not immune to any legal process in this country.

Abdul Rahim confirmed that police detained two men yesterday -- a Pakistani with permanent resident status in Malaysia and the United States, Dr Munawar Anees, and Anwar's former private secretary at the Finance Ministry, Mohamad Ahmad.

Munawar was detained under section 73 of the Internal Security Act (ISA) in connection with the overall investigation on security matters while Mohamad was remanded under section 117 of the Criminal Procedure Code to help in investigation into the book.

"Both were arrested in the Klang Valley," Abdul Rahim said.

On the six police reports lodged against Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, he said police were investigating.

Since his dismissal from the cabinet on Sept 2, thousands of Anwar's supporters have been visiting him at his house in Bukit Damansara, here, nearly every night.

He had also given ceramah at his hometown, Cherok To'Kun in Bukit Mertajam, Pulau Pinang, in Pondok Derang, Alor Setar, Kedah, and in Ayer Keroh, Melaka.

-- BERNAMA  
ZAI SN JK