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107 held in connection with Sunday's unrest released

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. - Police have released 107 of 132 people who were detained since on Sunday, in connection with investigations into unrest in the city.

They were released on police bail while the rest were are still in under police custody.

The 132 were picked up following their involvement in illegal assemblies and disturbances in the vicinity of the Jalan Raja courthouse and Dataran Merdeka. They were believed to supporters of former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Earlier today, Anwar's private secretary Mohamed Azmin Ali, who had been in remand since Sept 16, was released.

Magistrate Mohd Azhar Othman issued the release order in the chambers after disallowing the police application for extension of the remand.order.

In a statement faxed to the media about noon today, Federal police media affairs chief Superintendent Ghazali Amin said that of the total of 132 detained, 17 were foreigners.

He said they comprised Indonesians (nine), Pakistanis (two), an Afghan and five others whose nationalities have yet to be established.

Ghazali said the situation in the city, especially the areas around the courthouse and Dataran Merdeka in Jalan Raja, had returned to normal.

"There was no untoward incident reported over the past 12 hours," he said, advising the public to refrain from participating in illegal assemblies organised by those believed to be irresponsible elements.

He said public co-operation was vital in assisting police maintain law and order, and urged them not to pay heed to rumours spread over the Internet or verbally by word of mouth.

He said that those wishing to obtain any information should contact the nearest police station or the control centre of the respective State police contingent headquarters.

Meanwhile, Lumut Umno Youth chief Dr Zamri Abdul Kadir was today detained under the Internal Security Act making him the 13th person to be detained under the Act.

However, it could not be ascertained where Dr Zamri was picked up from.

On Sunday, Anwar, Negri Sembilan Umno Youth chief Ruslan Kasim and Umno Youth chief Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi were detained under section 73(1)(a) of the ISA for engaging in actions detrimental to national security.

Yesterday, Semarak State Assemblyman Kamaruddin Mat Noor, International Islamic University student affairs rector Professor Dr Sidek Baba, Institute of Policy Research chairman Datuk Kamaruddin Jaafar, Cheras Umno division divison head Tamunif Mokhtar and National Muslim Students' Association of Malaysia president Amidi Datuk Abdul Manan were also detained under the Act.

The others were Malaysian Islamic Youth Movement (Abim) president Ahmad Azam Abdul Rahman, his deputy Mukhtar Redhuan, secretary-general Shaharuddin Badaruddin, and vice-president Abdul Halim Ismail.

Anwar, who was also the former Finance Minister, was detained by police on Sunday, hours after he had led an illegal assembly in the federal capital.

After gathering outside the National Mosque, he led a gathering to walk to the nearby Dataran Merdeka.

Following the assembly at Dataran Merdeka, Anwar's supporters marched to the Umno headquarters at the Putra World Trade Centre where a group of people had damaged property there.

They then proceeded to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's official residence, Sri Perdana, where they challenged Federal Reserve Unit personnel who were on duty there.

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