

21/09/1998

`People must have confidence in those handling the case'

GRIK, Sun. - The people must have confidence in the police, the Attorney-General and the court in handling the criminal allegations against former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Deputy Home Minister Datuk Tajol Rosli Ghazali said the people should remain calm and allow the legal process to take place accordingly.

"We should wait and see the development and not take action before the process of law takes place," he added.

Tajol Rosli said the process which involved in-depth investigations normally took time.

"When police feel it is time to charge Anwar in court, I believe they will do so," he added.

Citing the sex scandal case between US President Bill Clinton and former White House intern Monica Lewinsky which took independent prosecutor Kenneth Starr four years to put in order, Tajol Rosli said the people should be patient and not take actions which could create conflict.

"In Anwar's case, police are acting according to the Malaysian legal system," he said after the Grik Wanita Umno gathering at the Grik town hall today.

Tajol Rosli said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had been accused of being hasty in removing Anwar from his posts, and therefore it was important that the allegations against Anwar be proven.

"The Prime Minister had seriously thought (about removing Anwar) before deciding to take the action.

"He (Dr Mahathir) could not accept the allegations contained in the book 50 Dalil Mengapa Anwar Tidak Boleh Jadi PM (50 Reasons Why Anwar Cannot Become PM) and police had acted based on police reports lodged in connection with the book.

"Police are investigating and the people should wait for developments," he added.

In Kota Baru, police said they knew that the identity of the organisers of last Friday's rally at the Sultan Mohammad IV stadium where Anwar spoke.

Kelantan CID chief ACP Mangsor Ismail said the organisers would be called soon to assist in the investigations on the gathering which was held without a police permit.

The investigations would be conducted under Section 27 of the Police Act 1967, he told a news conference.

Mangsor advised traders in the State not to sell recordings of Anwar's talks as the contents might be seditious.

(END)