

06 OCT 1998

Police-Permit

POLICE REFUSE PERMIT FOR BARISAN NASIONAL RALLY

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 6 (Bernama) -- Police will not issue a permit for the Barisan Nasional rally planned for Saturday at the Stadium Nasional in Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur Police Chief Datuk Kamaruddin Md Ali said today.

He said the Cheras OCPD Assistant Commissioner Mohd Bakri Zinin decided not to issue the permit for reasons of security.

Kamaruddin said the organisers had been informed of the police decision.

"The police wish to advise members of the public not to go to the stadium at the stipulated time as the police had not issued a permit for the gathering," he said.

Chairman of the gathering's coordinating committee Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak had said yesterday that some 150,000 people were expected to attend the rally.

Umno was to have been represented by more than 50,000 members, the MCA by up to 30,000 and the MIC by 10,000 of its members with members of the other BN component parties and the public making up the rest.

Najib had said the rally was to express support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and would last two hours.

Kamarudin said police had also not issued permits to organisers who had planned gatherings at the Merdeka Stadium, Merdeka Square, Jalan Tunku Abdul Rahman and other venues in the city on the same day.

Hence members of the public should not heed the pamphlets being distributed about such gatherings, he said.

"Any attempt by anyone including the organisers and members of the public to attend illegal gatherings or rallies is an offence and action will be taken against them under Section 27 of the Police Act," he said.

Supporters of former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim had been distributing pamphlets announcing gatherings in the various venues at 1.30pm on Oct 10.

-- BERNAMA

ZAI AAM