

No 'Black 14' incident in Suhakam report

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KUALA LUMPUR, Sun: The Human Rights Commission of Malaysia's (Suhakam) first annual report will not include yesterday's "Black 14" gathering and the open inquiry into the illegal gathering in Klang on Nov 5.

Suhakam chairman Tan Sri Musa Hitam said today the annual report for the year 2000 will only contain incidents involving Suhakam which occurred between April 24 and Dec 31.

"The report covers Suhakam's activities from our first meeting on April 24, 2000 till the end of the year.

"There will not be any reoort on the demonstration or-the open inquiry as they are recent incidents," he told reporters after attending the 2001 Premier Cup Series at Bukit Kiara here.

The report will also include incidents where Suhakam played an observer's role, he added.

The annual report will be submitted to the Parliament Speaker on April 19.

When asked for a summary of the report, Musa said he will comment after the report is submitted to the Speaker

On a related matter, Musa told reporters that Suhakam,

along with its commissioners, will be participating in the state level roadshow in Johor Baru during the next two days.

He said Suhakam will meet civil servants, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), Barisan Nasional component party members and the opposition as part of their visit.

"Our intention is to fulfil our duties and responsibilities as stated in the Act,

which is to expose, introduce and disseminate information pertaining to Suhakam to the public," he said.

Johor is the fourth state to be visited by Suhakam, after Sabah, Sarawak and Kedah.

Suhakam hopes to go on a similar roadshow in Pahang next month.

Musa said the roadshow will continue until the commission covers all states.

"The roadshow will give

us a chance to explain our duties and responsibilities as we want Suhakam to not only to be known, but accepted as an institution entrusted by the government and the people to monitor and safeguard human rights," he said.

Earlier, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad spent an hour at the Premier Cup Series and gave away prizes to the Premier Cup Final Grand Prix winners.