

Kit Siang held for distributing leaflets, released on bail

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IPOH: DAP chairman Lim Kit Siang was arrested at the Pasir Pinji market here yesterday while distributing leaflets for the party's "No to 911, No to 929, Yes to 1957" campaign.

He was released three hours later on a police bail of RM3,000.

Deputy OCPD Supt Che Sab Hanafiah said Lim was detained at 9.40am for an offence "suspected to be seditious in nature" under Section 4(1)(c) of the Sedition Act, 1948.

The penalty under that Act carries a maximum RM5,000 fine or three years' jail, or both.

Lim told reporters that he had been wrongfully arrested as police had told him that he was distributing leaflets without a permit. "I am not aware there is such an offence.

"Section 4(1)(c) of the Act states that it is an offence to distribute a leaflet which is seditious in nature, and it has nothing to do with distributing a leaflet without a permit.

"The police refused to verify the matter and insisted on arresting me," he said.

He has lodged a police report against the arresting

officer, Pasir Puteh OCPD Chief Insp Abdul Wahab Abdul Rahman, claiming that he was wrongfully confined, falsely arrested and had been manhandled.

Lim, who said he would consider taking legal action, also demanded a public apology from the arresting officer.

Lim said the DAP campaign was aimed at creating public awareness on the implications of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement on Sept 29 that Malaysia was an Islamic state.