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A-G: Bunyamin will not be charged while in hospital

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - Attorney-General Datuk Abdul Gani Patail today clarified that the prosecution division had no intention of charging former Bachok MP Bunyamin Yaacob while he was in hospital.

Gani told the New Straits Times that it has never been its policy to charge people who are hospitalised.

"The matter should be left to the prosecution division to handle properly," he said, adding that Bunyamin would not be charged until he was well enough to be brought to court.

Yesterday, Kelantan State Criminal Investigation Department chief ACP Abdul Rahim Jani said they had planned to bring a magistrate to the Kota Baru Hospital to charge Bunyamin, 56.

Bunyamin is to be charged with criminal defamation over his statement that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had watched a pornographic video with his grandchildren.

Bunyamin was hospitalised on Thursday. He will be charged under Section 500 of the Penal Code, which is punishable with up to two years' jail, a fine or both.

He is alleged to have made his statement during a Pas ceramah at Pusat Tarbiah Islamiah Kelantan in Pengkalan Chepa on March 15.