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Parliament-Winding (KDN)  
POLICE COMPLETE PROBE INTO PERWAJA CASE- CHOR

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 24 (Bernama) -- Police have completed their probe into the Perwaja Steel Sdn Bhd (Perwaja) case and will refer their findings to the Attorney-General's Chamber, the Dewan Rakyat was told today.

Deputy Home Minister Datuk Chor Chee Heung said his ministry had been formed by police that their investigation into the company's affairs had been completed.

"Police had to go through huge piles of documents and they have just completed their investigations," he said when winding up the debate on the allocations for his ministry in next year's Budget.

Apart from the investigation by the Police Commercial Crime Department, the company was also investigated by the Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA).

"The ACA it is learnt is still investigating under a different aspect and the probe is proceeding smoothly, I believe," he said.

Earlier reports said that the steel company incurred losses amounting to RM2.5 billion allegedly due to irregularities and Swiss assistance was sought when it was claimed that part of the ill-gotten cash was kept in banks in Switzerland.

Early this month the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, said the identity of Malaysians involved in the irregularities would be exposed if there was enough evidence.

On corporate and digital crime, Chor said police needed time to get the proof for criminal cases as no one should be condemned beforehand without strong proof.

He said probes into corporate crime frequently posed problems particularly in the area of getting witnesses to testify and documents which were often kept abroad.

"Moreover, corporate crime is only reported after a long time and hence it is difficult to get proof," he said.

On threats to national security, Chor said the government had come to know that foreign intelligence agents were spying on this country.

"The Government through the police counter espionage unit is keeping track of this undiplomatic activity," he said.

He reminded all parties including the Opposition to protect official secrets so that it would not fall into foreign hands as this could endanger national security.

Some people who disliked the government had also posted certain documents in the Internet and this would be accessed by foreign intelligence, he said.

On the 30-year-cooperation among the Royal Malaysia Police, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of the United States as well as the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), Chor said such cooperation would continue to check terrorist activities and preserve regional peace.

Such cooperation would also help the Malaysian police in the area of sophisticated technology.

"On whether the CIA and FBI may take advantage of this cooperation to spy on this country, we do not know. However we have to be vigilant as all things in this world require vigilance," he added.

-- BERNAMA  
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