

18 MAY 2003

Rais-Hadi

COPS URGED TO MAKE PUBLIC PROBE ON HADI'S ALLEGATIONS

KUALA KLAWANG, May 18 (Bernama) -- The police have been urged to make public the probe into the allegation by Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang that they tried to protect certain parties involved in vice activities in Terengganu.

In making the call, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim said if the police were to remain silent over the investigations, the public might think there could be some truth behind the allegation by the Terengganu Menteri Besar.

"If the police have anything which they can make public, then this is the time to do so. Remaining silent will not help the situation.

"In my opinion, it is more appropriate for the police to explain the situation otherwise (people may think that) the allegation by the (Terengganu) Menteri Besar may have some truth."

Rais told reporters this after opening a shooting competition organised by Jelebu Rela at the Titi shooting range near here today.

Early last month, Abdul Hadi alleged that the police had also refused to cooperate when the Terengganu government wanted to close down premises which held vice activities.

Rais said if the allegation was found to be baseless, Abdul Hadi can be charged under the Printing Machine and Presses Act 1984 for slander.

On another development, Rais said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will meet all department heads of enforcement agencies like the Anti-Corruption Agency, police, customs and immigration in Putrajaya next week.

The meeting is to brief the department heads on the Prime Minister's views to improve enforcement based on policies, ethics and responsibilities towards the involved parties.

Rais said this was part of measures to tighten all forms of enforcement in the country.

-- BERNAMA

APG ZUL