

Anwar unconvinced about 'Datuk T' charge
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Anwar Ibrahim is unconvinced that anything will come of the charge against the 'Datuk T' trio in relation to a sex video that has implicated him despite his denial of involvement.

"Knowing the AG (attorney-general) and his track record, I'm sure it will be a very minimal sort of charge to appease the forces (Umno), like the other politically motivated charges, except when it involves the opposition leaders," he said.

Businessperson Shazryl Eskay Abdullah said earlier today that the three will be charged at a Kuala Lumpur court on Friday.

"I don't know, (I) didn't hear, cases like these (are) postponed (for) many months, (it) will raise many questions," complained Anwar when approached in the Parliament lobby today.

"I don't know, because a straightforward case like (this has been) deferred (for) far too long and then, it (the video) is still (being) widely distributed, encouraged by the government, tolerated by the (Home) Ministry and the police.

"It's impossible for pornographic material to be publicised and released by hundreds and thousands, if (this) is not protected by the powers-that-be."

On March 21, a mysterious individual had shown the sex video at a luxury hotel in Kuala Lumpur, at a screening arranged for editors and journalists.

Eskay, along with former Malacca chief minister Abdul Rahim Thamby Chik and former Perkasa treasurer-general Shuib Lazim, later admitted to being behind the exposé at the Carcosa Seri Negara hotel.

'Umno conduit'

Asked if he is worried that the authorities will attempt to prove the identity of the man in the video, Anwar said: "They can (do) whatever they want to do, (it) doesn't matter. I'll just have to deal with it when it comes.

"We have gone through this. He (Eskay) seems to be a Umno conduit helping the Umno leadership. Who are the other ... accomplices? Rahim and Shuib Lazim?"

"One is a great moralist leader and one (was) Perkasa leader. (Do) you mean to say Umno wants to seriously take action against them? I'm not convinced."

Although the man in the video is said to closely resemble Anwar, he has denied any involvement and lodged a police report.

The police, who investigated the trio for owning and distributing pornographic material, have claimed to proven the identity of the man in the footage, as well as the authenticity of the video.