

KJ: Datuk T charge proves BN innocent
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It is a "good thing" that the three individuals behind the sex video purportedly featuring PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim have been charged and pleaded guilty, said Umno Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin.

Good. They themselves know they committed a crime. It's very important that they are charged because all this while there are certain quarters, especially the opposition, who have been saying that the three acted on behalf of Umno and the BN," said Khairy (right), looking relieved.

This morning, former Malacca Chief Minister Abdul Rahim Thamby Chik was charged with abetting former Perkasa treasurer-general Shuib Lazim and businessperson Datuk Shazryl Eskay Abdullah in "openly" screening pornographic material to a group of journalists on March 21.

Anwar, on his part, had lodged a police report against the screening of the video and also had denied that he was the person involved.

The three, who had veiled themselves under the moniker 'Datuk T', said they screened the sex video to divulge the 'truth that the person featured in the video is unfit to be a leader.

"So (now) we want to show that they have been charged although (they) took a long time to charge. I don't know where their (police) efficiency is but they have been charged so that's good," Khairy said again.

Although it "took a bloody long time", Khairy said that the action "shows no special treatment" had been accorded Rahim, Eskay and Shuib.

Nothing to do with Umno

"They have nothing to do with Umno; from the start we have maintained that. Whether or not Eskay was good friends with Anwar and how he got the video, I don't care, it has got nothing to do with Umno.

Eskay (left) and Shuib were jointly charged with possession and distribution of pornography material under Section 292(a) of the Penal Code, while Rahim was charged with abetment under Section 109.

Rahim's defence lawyer, Muhammad Shafee Abdullah told the Kuala Lumpur Magistrate's Court this morning that the video's authenticity was proven by experts from the Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, US on June 4.

Shafee, in an attempt to reduce his client's penalty, said that based on facial recognition analysis, there was a 99.99 percent match of the male in the video clip to a known photo of Anwar.

The defence counsel requested that the court discharge Rahim on good behaviour bond, and be given a warning.

However, magistrate Aizatul Akmal Maharani fined Eskay RM3,000, or three months jail in default.

Shuib was fined RM1,500 or two months' jail in default and Rahim was fined RM1,000 or in default a month's jail.

Unusually, the court allowed the trio to leave the courthouse without first settling their fines, directing them to do so later in the afternoon.

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