

Police give ultimatum to 141 Bersih protesters

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By Wong Teck Chi

The police have given a one-week ultimatum to 141 individuals they want to question in connection with the Bersih 3.0 rally on April 28.

“We are giving them a last chance to surrender. If they don’t come forward, we will go house to house to arrest them,” national Criminal Investigation Department chief Mohd Bakri Mohd Zinin (*left*) said today.

Since May 3, the police have released several batches of photographs allegedly depicting individuals involved in the rally. The latest batch released today involves 25 individuals, and most of them are from the PAS security unit.

“We want them to come forward and assist the police investigation,” said Mohd Bakri.

He also stressed that police have formed a task force led by an assistant commissioner of police to track those individuals.

He added the individuals can bring along their own lawyers if they wished.

“We have formed a task force for (the operation). I appeal to them to come forward and help in the investigation.”

Bakri also revealed that police have arrested 12 persons in relation to the Bersih rally and one of them has been charged. Four of them were arrested yesterday and one arrested this morning.

It is understood those arrested will be investigated under section 440 of the Penal Code for causing mischief in an illegal protest.

Until now, only Rasah PKR division deputy chief R Thangam was brought to court, charged with participating in an unlawful assembly, which reads together with an alternative charge of breaching court order.

Asked about investigations into police brutality, Bakri said the police have opened 22 investigation papers to look into the complaints lodged by reporters and the public.

He added that in total police have opened 43 investigation papers, of which another 21 investigation papers are on protesters who committed violence.

“We will do the same investigation as we have, that is assured.”

Bakri, however, refused to reveal whether they have identified any police officers who were involved in brutality.

Meanwhile, according to a police source, they have successfully got mugshots of some police officers accused of abusing *Guang Ming Daily* photographer Wong Onn Kin.

The source said the photos will be sent to police district officers nationwide to identify the attackers as the police officers on duty during the rally came from all over the country.

He said, however, the police are yet to obtain better photos of the police officers who attacked *The Sun* reporter Radzi Razak as the photo they have now is not clear enough.

He added disciplinary action will be taken against the officers if they are found guilty.

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