

## **Gun-flashing incident: Anwar leaves it to police**

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**By Nigel Aw**

PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim has taken a neutral position over his bodyguard's alleged handgun-flashing incident in Jasin, Malacca yesterday.

Speaking to reporters in Kuala Lumpur today, Anwar said his bodyguard had told him that he was being threatened by hecklers who were blocking PKR's bus.

"His position (bodyguard) was that he followed SOP and that he was threatened, the whole group of gangsters came (to him).

"I leave it to the police. The point to establish is whether the security did it (attempt to flash gun) in self defense and according to SOP," he said when approached at a PKR open house at Pantai Dalam this morning.

Yesterday, NTV7's mandarin news had reported that two police personnel in plain clothes had grabbed the bodyguard before pushing the handgun back into the hip holster.

The bodyguard was subsequently detained and his handgun was disarmed at the scene.

PKR's campaign bus was blocked by about 20 people when attempting to reach Kampung Rim for an event. The bus was struck by red paint.

Anwar stressed that the handgun was licenced.

'Bodyguard didn't point gun at hecklers'

However, he denied that his bodyguard had pointed the weapon at the hecklers, dismissing it as "Umno's and Perkasa's version" of the story.

"They attacked us for half an hour before that... It is all videotaped and there are photographs.

"They attacked us. They stopped the bus and we had to really avoid the group but now they want to say that we provoked (the incident)," he said.

Responding to the need for the security detail, Anwar said he had no choice as the government still refused to act against the series of attacks on Pakatan functions.

"The fact that none of these Umno or Perkasa people were arrested whatsoever throughout these incidents in the last few months is shocking.

"It shows how incompetent and irresponsible Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak and Home Minister Hishammuddin Hussein are," he said.

Anwar described the series of harassments as acts of desperation and warned that they may backfire and swing public opinion.

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