

Speed up political violence probe, Anwar tells cops

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By Hazlan Zakaria

Opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim has urged the police to professionally resolve all investigations into recent cases of political violence as soon as possible.

"Police must act speedily to find those who are really responsible and inform the people," Anwar told reporters in Petaling Jaya today.

This, he said, is to counter BN propaganda attacks in the mainstream media accusing Pakatan supporters as being behind all the violence.

"This is a matter which must be handled professionally by police," he added.

Since the dissolution of Parliament and the start of campaigning after nominations two weeks ago, incidents of political violence have escalated from attacks on campaign volunteers and ceramah disruptions, to destruction of campaign infrastructure via petrol bombs and improvised explosives.

A Pakatan campaign facility was allegedly burnt down, while several BN operations centres were torched in molotov cocktail attacks and "professionally constructed" explosive devices were found near a BN ceramah site - one went off, thereby injuring a party worker there.

BN leaders immediately blamed Pakatan members for the attacks, whereas Pakatan leaders decry a BN conspiracy to frame them for the dastardly deeds.

However, Anwar had stressed that if Pakatan supporters were found to be behind any acts of political violence, they will not be protected and he has vowed to fully cooperate with police.

Earlier, caretaker law minister Mohd Nazri Abdul Aziz (right) also expressed the same sentiment, vowing action against all guilty of political violence, including BN supporters.

The police have arrested 15 people to date, with three Pakatan supporters sought out for alleged links to the petrol bomb attack on a BN operations centre.

Anwar questions 'decrepit' EC warehouse

Meanwhile, Anwar also continued his onslaught against the Election Commission over allegations that ballot boxes bound for the commission's Putrajaya headquarters were diverted to a "secret" storage facility in a Kajang industrial zone.

"Can a decrepit building like this be an official EC storage facility?" He asked, holding up a picture of the alleged warehouse used to store EC election paraphernalia.

He questioned why the building has not been registered to the EC, if it is indeed an official storage facility.

More worryingly, said Anwar, is classified EC documents he claimed were found in the garbage dump and surrounding locale.

He showed the press what he alleged to be a postal voter envelope and two other documents with the EC logo on them.

Anwar expressed concern that classified EC papers would be loose in such a place.

He repeated his call for the EC to explain itself and rectify the situation.

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