

PKR: PM's Office linked to flying in dubious voters

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By Ram Anand

The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) is allegedly involved in purported operations to fly in dubious voters from East Malaysia to the peninsula, PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim said today.

Anwar said his party has obtained photographic and documented evidence that 16 chartered flights have been flying to the peninsula everyday from various locations in East Malaysia.

By Sunday, which is polling day, at least 40,500 people would have been flown in through such flights, he said.

Anwar said the passenger manifests that are in the possession of PKR reveal that the passengers are mainly foreign nationals.

None Anwar (right) also said that the party has obtained a copy of email communications within Malaysian Airlines (MAS) that made a direct reference to the PMO in relation to the chartered flights.

However, copies of these documents were not shown to the media because, the opposition leader said, the party has not decided on its next course of action yet.

The flights, Anwar said, are travelling to Kuala Lumpur from Kuching, Miri and Sibu - the three major towns in Sarawak - and also from Kota Kinabalu and Sandakan from Sabah.

In average, the chartered flights fly in around 4,500 individuals to the country's capital, starting from April 25 up until the polling day. May 1 was the only day that the flights did not make a trip, he further added.

He noted that should Pakatan Rakyat form the next federal government, they would prosecute those who were involved in this exercise.

"We will charge all those responsible," Anwar said in no uncertain terms.

'Najib did promise free, fair elections'

Anwar then asked the relevant authorities to explain if these foreigners were being

housed in territorial army camps, and if foreign workers at the Sepang F1 circuit had been told to vote on polling day.

NONE"I call upon (caretaker Prime Minister) Najib Abdul Razak to give us a categorical reassurance regarding this matter. He had promised that the elections will be free and fair," he stressed.

Meanwhile, MAS has reportedly denied that it is ferrying phantom voters ahead of polling day.

"Malaysia Airlines wishes to clarify that all chartered flights in the national carrier's system are commercial chartered flights," English-language daily The Star quoted it as saying today.

Anwar also lamented the fact that his party workers are unable to monitor the process of postal voting, because postal votes are stored in post offices for a long time and political parties do not have any knowledge as to what happens with the postal votes there.

"Also, we have 50,000 postal votes registered under the media category. As such, we must be having the biggest media industry in the whole world," he said sarcastically.

Anwar has previously said that any alleged electoral fraud could become Pakatan's roadblock to achieving federal power, even though the opposition coalition has been pulling in crowds during its ceramah and seems to be heading to the polls with an optimistic momentum.

On the other hand, Anwar added that May 6 will be declared a public holiday should Pakatan win the elections, in order to facilitate travelling time for those who have had to travel to their hometowns to vote.

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