

## **Police seek 150 for holding up bus of 'phantom voters'**

**MalaysiaKini.com**

**May 8, 2013**

**By Aidila Razak**

Police are looking to arrest 150 people allegedly involved in an incident where a mob held up a bus in Port Klang on May 5, believing that it was carrying phantom voters.

NONEAccording to Klang MP Charles Santiago, police informed a magistrate's court in Klang about this when seeking a remand order for three individuals arrested on Monday in connection with the alleged offence.

Santiago said the three are among seven arrested to date under Section 148 of the Penal Code, which refers to rioting with weapons.

"On Monday, three were arrested, remanded and later released on police bail. On Tuesday the same happened to another three and today another person is currently being held at the Klang district police headquarters lock-up over the same incident.

"But these are just people who have contacted our hotline for assistance," Santiago said when contacted.

NONEHe said that locals had stopped three buses suspected to be ferrying phantom voters near the Pandamaran Chinese School polling station and two were brought to the Port Klang police station.

"I had received a call and went to the police station at about 4.30pm. There were 18 of them on the bus, and some had indelible ink on their fingers.

"I asked one if he had voted and he said, 'No, I work in a factory'," he said, adding that the passengers had informed him they were Indian and Nepali citizens.

"I made a call to the returning officer, who in turn called the Election Commission to send an officer to verify if these individuals were phantom voters, but the EC said that as it was past 5pm, it was a police matter. They were subsequently released.

'Bus not ferrying phantom voters'

According to China Press, bus company Yayasan Sutera has lodged a police report on the incident and denies that the bus was used to ferry phantom voters but to

provide transport to factory workers.

NONE Santiago, who also lodged a report on the incident, said that one Indian national on the bus told him he had paid RM3.50 as bus fare.

China Press also reported that a Selangor police spokesperson said that the bus was ferrying 54 foreign workers from Nepal, Bangladesh and Burma who held legitimate working permits.

It also reported that South Klang police district chief Mohamed Mat Yusop confirmed that four have been arrested over the incident, but said that the bus was not ferrying phantom voters.

Mohamed was also quoted as saying that bus was not heading to the polling station but passed it on the way to its next destination.

In a video uploaded on Facebook of the incident, the bus passengers were physically forced to get off the bus by an angry mob who later put the passengers through a gauntlet.

Some were kicked and punched by many at the same time. A photograph circulating on social media purportedly of the incident shows a man cowering on the ground while the bus window was smashed.

Malaysiakini has contacted South Klang district police chief ACP Muhammad Mat Yusop for further confirmation on the alleged pending arrests and is awaiting his response.

'Escorted into police van'

In a separate incident at Sekolah Vokasional Teknik Kota Alam Shah, Santiago said he had witnessed two individuals who were suspected to be migrant workers being escorted into a police van post-voting.

"When the two came out of the polling station, the residents made a lot of noise but they were then escorted into a police van which was strategically placed.

"From what I could see, the two individuals were not Malaysians but their citizenship is not clear.

"It could be that the police escorted them to protect them from the mob, but we would like to know if police lodged a report on this," he said.

A video of the incident was also uploaded onto Facebook, but the short clip only shows what is believed to be the inside of a police van and a commotion.

Copyright © 1999-2012 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd  
Source: <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/229540>