

## **28 Pakatan rally speakers to be probed for sedition**

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Selangor police chief Tun Hisan Tun Hamzah today said that police would call the organisers of the rally to protest the results of the 13th general election held at the Kelana Jaya Stadium last night to facilitate in the investigation.

Apart from that, according to Bernama, he said police would also record statements from the opposition leaders who delivered a speech at the rally.

NONEHe said 28 out of 33 opposition leaders involved in the rally were found to have delivered seditious speeches which violated Section 4 (1) of the Sedition Act 1948.

Tun Hisan said the organisers had clearly failed to adhere to Section 9 (5) of the Peaceful Assembly Act, that is to notified the police about the event, 10 days before it actually takes place.

"We only received their notice at 12.20pm yesterday, we have asked them to postpone it to be fair to the surrounding residents," he was quoted as saying in Shah Alam today.

However, he said the organisers went ahead with their plan and caused not only massive traffic congestion, but also worries among the people and road users.

Tun Hisan said the stadium could only accommodate 25,000 people with a little over 700 parking lots and if only the organisers had adhered to the regulations, the police could have suggested that the gathering be held at a more suitable venue.

Detrimental to democracy

"Just imagine if something happens in that congested area? This shows how selfish the organisers are, they don't care about the consequences of their acts to the people," he said.

Selangor police chief DCP Tun Hisan Tun Hamzah 2When asked why the organisers were capable of informing the public about the event through the social media and not able to notify the police, Tun Hisan said the organisers actually comprised smart and educated people who were keen on challenging the laws.

According to the national news agency, he said police had also received several reports on the gathering, including from a woman who claimed that a protestor hurled a bottle at her car.

No arrest had been made so far as the police were still investigating the case and preparing report to be submitted to the Attorney-General's Chambers for further investigation, he said.

Tun Hisan said the gathering would also be investigated under Section 124B of the Penal Code for activity detrimental to parliamentary democracy, which carries a maximum jail term of 20 years if convicted.

"We view this matter seriously as they blatantly disregard the law, disrespect the local residents," he reportedly said.

Police wasted public resources

Tun Hisan said the organisers and participants of the gathering could not justify their act to human rights without taking into consideration the rights of the people and the police.

An estimated 120,000 turned up for Pakatan's post general election rally to protest alleged electoral fraud that opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim blamed for the coalition's loss.

In a press release this afternoon, PKR vice-president N Surendran said that the police had wasted public resources monitoring speeches instead of guiding traffic outside the venue.

"During the rally, traffic police failed to assist the public who attended the rally. Was this done upon the BN government's instructions?" he said.

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