

EC ready to meet Rafizi on fraud claims

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The Election Commission (EC) is ready to meet with any party that wishes to make a complaint or furnish evidence of fraud in the May 5 general election, including PKR director of strategy Rafizi Ramli who is leading the party's electoral fraud investigation team.

This is to avoid any negative perception that the commission failed to execute its duties, today's issue of Malay daily Sinar Harian quotes EC deputy chairperson Wan Ahmad Wan Omar as claiming.

"It is good if there is solid evidence, together with police reports and others. I'm ready to meet those who have these evidence and hear about the problems that might have happened.

NONE" It is better to meet. We can avoid any negative prejudice because the EC is really sincere in carrying out the duties given," Wan Ahmad is quoted as saying.

He was responding to Rafizi's (left) statement yesterday that a police report has been lodged against a blackout that took place in Sedim, Kedah, during the vote counting on polling day - and lasted for 15 minutes.

The area falls under the Kulim-Bandar Baru parliamentary seat, and adds to an alleged blackout in Sri Serdang on the same day.

Earlier on, Wan Ahmad dismissed a photograph posted on the Internet showing that a blackout occurred during vote counting, claiming it to be an act recorded before the general election.

However PAS' Sri Serdang assemblyperson Noor Hanim Ismail came out to prove that the photograph was taken by her polling agent at the polling centre of Sekolah Kebangsaan Serdang in her constituency.

'EC ready to cooperate with police'

Wan Ahmad also told Sinar Harian that the EC was ready to cooperate with the police to investigate the claim.

"It is good to have police report. Let the police investigate and we are always ready

to give any cooperation to find out the truth. We have 26,000 polling centres and thousands of workers who may not have reported to the EC if there had been negligence."

He explained that his previous statements were made based on the report given to him within 24 hours after the polling day.

"My statements before this were based on the immediate report after the polling day. We contacted our workers, the police and Tenaga Nasional Bhd and there was no report (of a blackout) received.

"If we don't base this on our sources, who should we trust? Therefore, when there is a police report, we ask the police to investigate."

On Rafizi's demand for the EC to announce how many Borang 10A it had issued by the EC, Wan Ahmad said he has yet to obtain complete information on the total number of the forms issued as the commission is currently busy with other matters, such as election petitions.

In another report published by Berita Harian today, Kedah EC director Juhari Abdul Rahmad denied Rafizi's claim that blackout had occurred during vote counting in the Kulim-Bandar Baru parliamentary constituency.

Juhari said the EC had not received any report related to Rafizi's allegations of the blackout and about 'phantom voters'.

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