

Rafizi: Minister wishy-washy on indelible ink

MalaysiaKini.com

July 17, 2013

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Pandan MP Rafizi Ramli says that Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Shahidan Kassim gave differing answers on the contents of the indelible ink used in the May 5 general election.

NONE Rafizi said Shahidan (right) had in his reply to Parliament last month, said that the ink did not have chemicals and only contained food colouring.

"As I remember, in the first week of Parliament, he said there was no silver nitrate as this had been replaced with food colouring.

"Today the minister said there is one percent silver nitrate. That is why I say the answers given by the Election Commission and minister are different," he said at a press conference in the Parliament lobby today.

He was commenting on Shahidan's speech in Parliament where the minister mentioned there was silver nitrate in the ink.

Shahidan when quizzed repeatedly by Pakatan MP's to explain on how the ink could be washed off easily, had asked the lawmakers not to focus solely on silver nitrate.

"The content of the indelible ink is one per cent silver nitrate, 60 percent organic colour, 29 percent moisturiser, and 10 percent solvent," he said.

NONE "I cannot disclose the content in the solvent. If I did, it would be manipulated," he said.

Earlier, Shahidan declined to reveal the identity of the indelible ink supplier, although Rafizi (left) had named a company yesterday.

Despite being harassed by various opposition lawmakers, Shahidan refused to verify Rafizi's claim.

The minister however, denied that the company also supplied t-shirts and hats used by the EC as claimed by Rafizi.

He added that the indelible ink issue is being investigated by the Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission.

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