

MCA condemns Himpunan Hijau gatecrash
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MCA has condemned the act of anti-Lynas group Himpunan Hijau's act of gatecrashing an Australian High Commission event last night, saying that it brought shame to the country.

MCA Pahang chief Hoh Khai Mun said that it showed that Himpunan Hijau "led by its leader DAP member Wong Tack" had "no respect" for the hosts and guests at the Australia Day event.

"They had no respect at all for the hosts and guests in attendance whose right to safety, civility and security appeared compromised by Himpunan Hijau," he said in a statement today.

He said that the incident also happened in full view of diplomats who regularly send reports to their home country of Malaysia's political situation, and are now left with a bad impression.

Instead of being "practitioners of harassment", he said, the group could have easily made an appointment and submitted a memorandum of protest to the Australian High Commission in a more civil manner.

"Would Wong and his followers want and welcome the same treatment of complete strangers trespassing and gatecrashing their private meetings?" he asked.

"There was no need to resort to such dramatics and intimidation tactics to disrupt people's private function just to snare publicity, yet sending the Australian hosts and invited guests into panic mode."

Panic among guests

Yesterday, Himpunan Hijau members pushed their way through security at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in order to protest rare earth company Lynas' processing plant in Gebeng, Pahang.

Lynas was also a sponsor of the event, resulting in Pakatan Rakyat assemblypersons to boycott the event.

The fracas, which caused a panic among guests, was diffused when Australian High Commission in Malaysia security manager Llyod Laughlin intervened and allowed the group to gather and display their banners outside the hall where the event was held.

Meanwhile, Hoh also condemned the move by PKR members who stomped on and burned posters with the Japanese flag in front of the Japanese embassy.

"These two incidents involving foreign missions in Kuala Lumpur committed by Pakatan members and supporters are absolutely shameful and totally un-Malaysian. They warrant severe public reprimand," he said.

The demonstrators were protestors the barring of PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim from Japan on Sunday. The Kuala Lumpur embassy said this was as Anwar did not apply for a special permit, required of those who have been convicted of a crime.

Anwar, however, insisted that his office had checked with the embassy prior to his departure and was given the all clear.

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