

IGP: Anonymous cyber threat is from overseas

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A police probe on hacktivist group Anonymous Malaysia's threat to launch a cyber attack on 150 government-related websites has revealed that the announcement was made from outside Malaysia.

"We know that wherever the announcement was made, it was not from Malaysia," inspector-general of police Khalid Abu Bakar said in a press conference in Subang Jaya today.

"Whether he is a foreigner (or not), it is yet to be (confirmed)," he added.

Lamenting that the problem with the Internet is that such attacks can be launched from wherever in the world, Khalid said this has made their investigations into Anonymous Malaysia harder.

"Sometimes, in other countries, their (cyber) laws are different from ours, so it is a bit more difficult to get the other countries to cooperate," he said.

However, Khalid (photo) stressed that the police are not taking the hacktivist group's threats lightly and will continue to investigate this matter further.

Anonymous Malaysia had released an eight-minute video clip announcing that it will launch an attack on 150 government-related websites in conjunction with the Bersih 4 rally on Aug 29 and 30.

However, Bersih chairperson Maria Chin Abdullah had condemned the threat and insisted that the electoral reform coalition does not agree with the hacktivist group's actions.

"We do not condone, and must condemn the threats issued by this so-called group of hackers who have misused Bersih 4's campaign in order to further their own agenda, whatever that may be," she had said.

Previously in 2011, Anonymous had attacked 51 government websites after the Malaysian government blocked access to websites such as whistleblower Wikileaks and The Pirate Bay, a digital entertainment index.

The secret hacker group said the block was an infringement on the right to freedom of information.

However, the group did not specify then that they were Anonymous Malaysia.

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