

Anti-sports betting 'victory parade' on smaller scale
Malaysiakini.com
July 02, 2010

The 'victory parade' meant to celebrate the government's decision to not legalise sports betting planned for tomorrow will be a scaled down affair, said its organiser Movement Against Gambling (GMJ).

NONEWhile refusing to estimate the number of people expected, its secretary Suhaizan Kaiat (right) said that it will be below the initially expected figure of 100,000.

The march to the palace to hand over a memorandum to the King has been replaced with just gathering at the compound of the National Mosque at 2pm tomorrow.

"This is to celebrate the people's victory in the struggle against the legalising of sports betting," he said of what he calls "phase two" of the campaign.

The government had last week decided not to legalise sports betting, apparently upon advice from religious experts, as well as after taking political implications into consideration.

He added that some Pakatan Rakyat and NGO leaders are scheduled to address the gathering.

The program will also include a special thanksgiving prayer session for Muslim participants, aside from the distribution of around 10,000 leaflets against gambling and "Love Your Family" stickers to all present.

According to Suhaizan, GMJ had applied for a permit on June 24 but has yet to hear from the police.

"I don't expect any trouble or run-ins (with the police) as all we want to do is to show that gambling is bad for society and the country.

"We are also doing this in the mosque compounds, which are open to the public," he said.

Copyright © 1999-2007 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd.
Source : <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/136257>