

**Expect alternative media to be next
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'Shouldn't the question be why the ministry has not issued the permit since the application was submitted well before expiry date? Where are the KPIs?'

'Rocket' gets Home Ministry show-cause letter

Joe: The 'Anti-False News Panel' is hard at work. Home Minister Hishammuddin Hussein is taking himself and his job seriously. The only way to protect and defend 'truth' is to gag the opposition.

Only Umno, Perkasa and Utusan Malaysia are capable of telling the truth. If truth is to fall from the sky, strike our 'wunderbar' on the head, fall into his lap and drop onto the floor in front of him, he won't be able to recognise it for what it is.

The alternative media may be next on the chopping block. You guys, get ready to flee into your foxholes. Malaysiakini ought to drop another red herring, like those funny comics, to distract Batman.

OMG: By all means necessary... more foul than fair. Issue illegal immigrants with MyKads, Ban opposition publications. Throw the opposition leader in jail. What's next?

Ferdan: The end of democracy begins with curbs on the free press. Deliberate anarchy sets in. Falsehood will be repeated in the state propaganda machineries via newspapers, radio and TV. The authorities will come in and proclaim that they are the people's saviour and protector.

Self-appointed bodies similar to the Nazi Brownshirts take down opponents. People will be intimidated into being quiet and docile. A movie called 'V for Vendetta? Yes, but it can be real. History has proven it.

Huang: First, it was Suara Keadilan. Then, it was Harakah. Now, it is The Rocket! A strange coincidence that all three newsletters are from Pakatan Rakyat! The delay/no-response (over the permit renewal) is a deliberate trick to force the three parties to go ahead with their publications and be given show-cause letters.

But I understand Pakatan is still awaiting approval for registration. Note also that Pairin Kitingan's party PBS had a long delay in registration when Berjaya reigned supreme. Only with the intervention of Musa Hitam, the then deputy prime minister, that PBS was able to register just in time for the state election.

Freemisia: I did remember when Najib Razak took office, he said he will not attempt to clamp down the press freedom. So much for that. It is shocking. In this day and age, our 1Malaysia government is doing all it can to shut down the voice of the opposition while allowing Utusan Malaysia to continue spewing racial articles.

Dingy: Finally, Najib shows his true colour. He has to ban opposition's publications to stop the truth about corruption that is going on in the government. What's next? Malaysiakini readers should send via email on all the BN wrongdoings published in this website to all their friends who are non-subscribers.

Koh Kim Theng: Before the Home Ministry send out show-cause letters, it should first explain why the publication permit is not renewed. Otherwise, there is no justification to ban.

Habib RAK: Shouldn't the question be why the ministry has not issued the renewed permit since the renewal application was submitted well before the expiry date? Where are the key performance indicators for the ministry on this?

Gila Tuak: Desperate times, desperate moves.

Pornthip to testify in Teoh inquest

Loyal Malaysian: One way or another, Dr Pornthip Rojanasunand ought to give closure to the results of the second autopsy. If she can justify her earlier allegations, all the more reason she should testify. Even if the second autopsy cannot support those earlier claims, on professional grounds she must state so.

Joe: Dr Pornthip is a spunky lady with a reputation for taking on the establishment. She is regarded as a gadfly by the Thai Police Department, which hated for her guts for challenging and contradicting the police forensic findings in certain high-profile murder cases, where her analyses were subsequently found to be correct.

I am not in doubt Dr Pornthip will be professional in presenting her findings on the TBH (Teoh Beng Hock) case without fear or favour. My discomfort is closer to home. Dr Pornthip's findings are going to be disputed every step of the way right down to the touch line by pathologists on the government side. Finally, it remains for one coroner to make the judgement call.

The government agreed to have a royal commission of inquiry to look into the MACC interrogation procedure, but not the investigation of the cause of TBH's death. Isn't it curious for a government that claims to want to get down to the bottom of the case to do this? Does this not give away any clue how this inquest is going to be handled?

Noraini Yousoff: There seems to be a hidden hand, a third force of sorts, in the Teoh Beng Hock inquest. I think now the court will say it is too late for her to testify. Let us wait and see, or has she been sufficiently threatened to testify in favour of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Agency.

MACC still probing 'Istana Khir' and MB Khalid

Call me Jibby: You don't need a month to investigate Khir Toyo. First, get a real estate agent or bank to estimate the palace's value. Next, contact the Inland Revenue Board to verify how much tax Khir Toyo had paid over the years. Then, check whether Toyo has done any taxless businesses, for example. selling 'tempe' at a night market.

Lastly, arrest him to assist in further investigations.

DOC: In short this is a summary of MACC incapability to fight corruption effectively as their powers to do justice and protect the rakyat are curtailed by the political masters. MACC is nothing more than a walking zombie - no thought of their own, running around in circles aimlessly, occasionally speak in gibberish and no will to conduct their work effectively.

Barking Dog: MACC will still probe and probe until kingdom come, the only time when the probe ends will be when Pakatan takes over the government. Then we will see the real action that common folks expect.

Greece mirroring Malaysia's Scorpene scandal

Cala: Malaysia is not Singapore - you get what you ask. Oliver Williamson's "discriminating alignment hypothesis" (Nickerson and Bigelow, 2008) finds empirical evidence in the submarine deals.

Williamson, the co-recipient of 2009 Nobel Prize in economics, hypothesised that companies usually align organisation structures to suit anticipated exchange attributes. As an example, if the purchasers of submarines are low-tech, and are more concerned with the outlook than the technical excellence, the outcome will exactly be as asked because the makers align their setups to deliver products that meet customers' expectations.

Small wonder that submarines delivered to Greece (by Germany), and to Malaysia (by France), have faults in diving capability. In short, you get what you ask for.

Put it differently, if this were to happen to Singapore, Harry Lee Kuan Yew would have sued the makers until they go broke. But obviously Malaysia is different from the meritocracy-based Singapore.

Tiger Shark: I wouldn't speculate that the Scorpene scandal will sink Malaysia into bankruptcy too. The procurement cost of RM 6.7 billion appears to be very high, however the life cycle cost would be even higher.

Malaysia will inherit the colossal cost of operation, integrated logistic support, etc, for the rest of the operational life (20 to 30 years) of the Scorpene. Once impregnated forever pregnant. Are we going to pay for such a high cost with low impact to our defence capability?

The present battle field is about air power and electronic intelligent that will annihilate the enemy defence system. The submarine has never in any war provide such capability.

Luke Skywalker: It is okay for the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Idris Jala to announce in May that Malaysia could go bankrupt. However, Pakatan leaders could be sued for saying that Felda is bankrupt.

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