

Vendors shy away from 'Suara Perkasa'
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Malay rights NGO Perkasa is having difficulty convincing vendors to distribute its mouthpiece Suara Perkasa, following a warning from the Home Ministry over its first edition.

The publisher was reprimanded by the ministry after its first edition, published on July 1, headlined a call to arrest MCA Youth chief Wee Ka Siong under the Internal Security Act.

"So far, we have not been able to obtain information (on our sales figures)," its chief editor Daud Ibrahim said today when asked about the publication, which has not been spotted on the newsstands.

NONEDaud said Perkasa would continue to print 30,000 copies to be distributed nationwide, despite difficulties in sales.

"We should not be afraid. We did not break any law. We are the only paper that does not play around with political issues," he said.

He added that the bi-monthly has reached its third edition as scheduled, with editions published on the 1st and 15th of each month.

The second issue of Suara Perkasa focused on calling for Malay unity under Perkasa, he said.

The third, and most recent edition, features issues pertaining to "traitors" who do not respect the special rights of Malays, as outlined in Article 153 of the Federal Constitution.

The Aug 1 edition was scheduled to hit the streets this afternoon, he said.

Suara Perkasa is no stranger to bad press, having courted it since Perkasa president Ibrahim Ali announced that the contentious organisation had obtained a printing permit in March.

Despite apparently facing difficulties due to the Home Ministry warning, the decision to let the publishers off is seen as double standard.

This is in light of the ministry's decision to suspend the permit for the Parti Keadilan Rakyat organ Suara Keadilan.

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