

Teoh inquest: Fireworks expected tomorrow
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The Teoh Beng Hock inquest could throw up tense moments tomorrow - not only because the proceedings are due to focus on the mystery note that was recently revealed, but because a Thai forensics expert is set to take the stand.

In addition, the gallery could well be packed with supporters who have been urged to gather in numbers to show support for Teoh and to protest 'injustice' by the government.

Coroner Azmil Muntapha Abas is expected to have his hands full in dealing with the proceedings.

Already, there is much speculation as to who will testify first. Will it be Thai pathologist Dr Pornthip Rojanasunand (right), who arrived today?

Or will it be investigating officer ASP Ahmad Nazri Ismail, who will be questioned about the note he had found two months after Teoh's death last July.

A handwriting expert from the Chemistry Department may also be summoned to verify the handwriting on the note, to determine whether it was Teoh's.

Teoh's family members have all along disputed the authenticity of the note, claiming there are discrepancies in the handwriting.

Karpal to call AG

Senior lawyer Karpal Singh, who represents the Teoh family, told Malaysiakini that he will make an oral application to call attorney-general (AG) Abdul Gani Patail to testify.

This is because Gani had said the note was probably a suicide note, despite an earlier statement from the AG's Chambers that it was unable to verify that the writing was Teoh's.

Karpal said Gani can be put on the stand to answer for his statement to the press, as he had earlier said there were initial doubts as to the authenticity of the note.

Gobind Singh Deo, who is also representing the family, may apply to call in a foreign handwriting expert to study the note and to verify its authenticity.

The inquest began a year ago and was drawing to an end, when the note surfaced at the last session.

The AG's chambers then issued a statement denying that it had suppressed evidence.

Teoh's body was found on the fifth floor service corridor of Plaza Masalam in Shah Alam, after he was questioned overnight as a witness by the Selangor Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission. Its office is located on the 14th floor of the building.

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