

**Teoh Beng Hock's sister arrested in Galas**  
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In the second arrest in the Galas by-election since yesterday, the police today detained Teoh Lee Lan, sister to the late Teoh Beng Hock, under allegations of engaging in campaigning activities in the by-election.

NONESupt Maszely Minhad from Bukit Aman headquarters along with several officers arrested Lee Lan (right in photo) and three other members of the 'Malaysians for Beng Hock' group in Kampung Baru Gua Musang this afternoon.

They were eventually released this evening.

The group, who arrived in Galas yesterday to seek justice for the death of the DAP political aide, were walking along the street towards their cars, carrying their pamphlets on custodial deaths when at 2.20pm they were accosted by the police, said their coordinator Chong Kok Siong.

"Eight of us handed our ICs to the group of 10 policemen. Four of us were carrying the pamphlets walking in Kampung Baru to our cars," he said.

"The plainclothes police stopped us; they said the (death in) custody issue will affect security, (and that we) can't speak openly.

"But I said these figures (on custodial deaths) are from Hisham in Parliament, even the press reported it.

"I challenged him, 'If you have the right, arrest us all'," said the social activist.

Allegations 'puzzling'

Meanwhile Lee Lan, who was being detained at the police station, blasted the police for denying them their constitutional right to legal representation for over an hour.

"We want to see our lawyer, but our demands have been denied," she told reporters earlier in a phone interview.

"We are supposed to go home at 3pm. Now the police have arrested us and are wasting our time," she complained.

azlanWhen asked, Lee Lan said the police allegations really puzzled her.

"What did we do? Did we affect the election?" she asked angrily.

Maszely claims that the police had received complaints that the group was engaged in campaigning activities, in contravention of Section 4A (1) of the Election Offences Act.

The section states that it is an offense to "promote feelings of ill-will or hostility during elections", although it is unclear how the group's presence can promote such negative elements.

Canning assemblyperson Wong Kah Woh and DAP national vice president Tan Kok Wai who were at the scene argued with the police that the group had not committed any offence under the Act.

The police however persisted to bring four of the members - Lee Lan, Soh Cher Hai, Ng Yap Hwa and Toh Chin Hong - to Gua Musang district police headquarters.

'Police were rude'

"I don't know whether this is a coincidence, but there is going to be a 1Malaysia walk event here at 3pm. I want to question if Malaysia has no democratic space for people to discuss issues," said Chong.

"Is there a political agenda behind it? Is it because the two deputy ministers think our presence is affecting the votes?" asked Chong when met by reporters at the Gua Musang police headquarters.

NONEChong questioned whether the arrests are lawful since they are not from any political party nor were they campaigning for any candidate.

DAP sent Wong and two other lawyers, Pasir Pinji Adun Thomas Su and Serdang MP Teo Nie Ching to the station to assist the four.

The four were finally released this evening at around 8.40pm, but are instructed to report back to Gua Musang police headquarters on Nov 15.

Speaking to reporters later, Lee Lan confirmed that they are being investigated under Section 4A (1).

She added that the police had treated them rudely during their detention.

"A senior officer asked us to stand up because he was talking to us.

"He said, 'when I'm standing talking to you, don't you think it is very rude to speak to me while sitting?'" she said. "He even asked us 'which school are you from?'"

Ng meanwhile says that he had learnt from the police that it was Mazely who had lodged the police report.

In the police report, Mazely had claimed that the four had "distributed pamphlets with the intention of playing up ill feeling and dissatisfaction or conflict amongst the races".

'Malaysians for Beng Hock' are in Gua Musang to track down ministers whom they expect will have gathered at Galas for the by-election, so that they can press for a royal commission to investigate Teoh's death as well as move to install measures against custodial death and police abuses of power.

All eight members of the group have denied any political affiliations and said that they aim to campaign for human rights rather than politics.

NONETheir quest has not been smooth, with attempts to meet with MCA senator Heng Saie Kie yesterday resulting in one members being manhandled.

Today's arrest follows yesterday's police action against four students from Gabungan Mahasiswa Islam Se-Malaysia (Gamis) on similar complaints of campaigning. The students

claim they were simply there to observe the election process.

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