

Anwar to take stand next Monday
Bernama
August 15, 2011

KUALA LUMPUR: The start of the defence case was postponed again today, but Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim is set to take the stand on Aug 22 to answer the charge of sodomising his former aide, Mohd Saiful Bukhari Azlan.

The hearing was postponed today to give defence time to interview six remaining witnesses.

High Court judge Justice Datuk Mohamad Zabidin Mohd Diah, however, made clear to the prosecution and defence teams in his chambers that whatever the outcome of the interview, the trial would proceed next Monday.

Anwar's co-counsel S.N.Nair, who asked for the postponement told the court that the defence had interviewed 19 potential witnesses, and wanted to interview six more who had yet to be made available to them.

The six include former inspector-general of police Tan Sri Musa Hassan and two Indonesian maids.

Nair also informed the court that the defence had submitted their list of the witnesses whom they propose to call. He did not disclose the number of witnesses.

Solicitor-General II Datuk Mohamed Yusof Zainal Abiden, leading the prosecution team, told the court that they would facilitate the defence in interviewing the remaining witnesses by this week.

On Aug 8, the High Court allowed the defence application to interview, among others, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor and Musa.

Last Friday, Najib and Rosmah turned up in court for the interview. They spent about five minutes each in a meeting room with Anwar's counsel Karpal Singh and Nair and Anwar.

On May 16, Justice Mohamad Zabidin ordered Anwar to enter his defence after ruling that Mohd Saiful, the complainant in the case, was a truthful and credible witness.

Anwar, 63, pleaded not guilty in the Sessions Court on Aug 7, 2008, to committing carnal intercourse against the order of nature at Kondominium Desa Damansara in Bukit Damansara between 3.10pm and 4.30pm on June 26 the same year. – Bernama

Bernama

Copyright © 2009. The Edge Communications Sdn Bhd.

Source: <http://www.theedgemaalaysia.com/politics/191299-anwar-to-take-stand-next-monday.html>