

**Freedom Of Speech Must Comply With Rules - Sultan Of Pahang
Bernama
April 5, 2012**

KUANTAN, April 5 (Bernama) -- The freedom of speech and expression in the country should comply with the constitution, said the Sultan of Pahang Sultan Ahmad Shah.

This right includes the freedom of expression in an organisation where a member is entitled to an opinion say, but within the bounds of the rules adopted, he added.

He was asked about the Football Association of Malaysia (FAM) disciplinary committee's decision yesterday to ban deputy president Tan Sri Annuar Musa for two-and-a-half years for criticising the national team and defying a gag order.

Annuar, who is also the Kelantan FA president, was banned for two years for criticising the national team on March 13 and breaching Article 88 of FAM's statutes, which state that only the president and secretary-general can make media statements on Malaysian football.

He was also suspended for six months for going against FAM deputy president Tengku Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah's Feb 4 directive ordering everyone not to speak to the media on the association's policy matters.

"As I had said before, this is not about Tan Sri Annuar Musa, but all Malaysians.

"As Malaysians, we are free to speak, but there are limitations and we have to abide by the constitution. We cannot do as we like," Sultan Ahmad Shah, who is also FAM president, told reporters after attending the state civil service's dinner here last night.

Earlier when approached by reporters, the Sultan of Pahang said he had no knowledge of the ban imposed on Annuar by the FAM disciplinary committee.

"I do not know about it as I was not informed about it and I was Singapore," he said.

In his speech, Sultan Ahmad Shah said government departments should adopt best practices and become client-friendly while continuously striving to improve their services.

---BERNAMA

Hakcipta © 2012 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v6/bm/newsindex.php?id=657165>