

**Bersih 3.0 dirty and violent, says Abu Seman**  
**MalayMail**  
**June 13, 2012**  
**By Ram Anand**

**DESCRIBING** the April 28 rally for clean and fair elections as "dirty and violent", Deputy Home Minister Datuk Wira Abu Seman Yusop told the Dewan Rakyat that many did not take part willingly but were instead "instigated" by the Opposition to do so.

He said this when answering a question from Datuk Noraini Ahmad (BN-Parit Sulong) on whether the government planned to take action against the organisers.

Abu Seman's statements further stoked the Opposition's doubts regarding the credibility of the independent advisory panel tasked to investigate the violence that erupted during the rally.

"The fact that you use such words to describe the rally is an insult to all participants. How will (the panel) be independent when you use such words before the investigation starts?" asked Lim Kit Siang (DAP-Ipoh Timur).

Abu Seman produced documents, claiming proof that the Opposition had, on the night of April 26 and 27, instigated the crowd to break the barriers put up by the police at Dataran Merdeka.

His claim that police had practised "non-engagement" during the rally would be sure to draw additional criticism of the panel led by former inspector-general of police Tun Hanif Omar, as investigations had not been completed, MPs said.

Abu Seman also played down claims of police violence against journalists covering the rally.

"These are allegations made by individuals with vested interests," he said.

He did not deny the possibility of the government charging key opposition leaders under the Sedition Act for instigating the crowd during the rally.

Opposition leader and PKR de facto leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and PKR deputy president Mohamed Azmin Ali were charged in court last month with breaching the Peaceful Assembly Act 2011.

They were alleged to have instigated the crowd to breach a police barrier in front of Dataran Merdeka during the rally.

Abu Seman said 512 individuals were arrested during the rally, and that the police had employed 9,274 officers in Klang Valley that day.

© Copyright 2012 Malay Mail Sdn. Bhd.

Source: <http://www.mmail.com.my/story/bersih-30-dirty-and-violent-says-abu-seman>